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Editorial.

SEEDING DOWN TO GRASS.

Many farmers who had land that they intended to seed down last August, delayed the work hoping rain would come; but the dry weather continued so late in the season that when the rain did come it was too late to sow grass seed, so most of the land remains to be seeded down in the spring, or to be carried through another season and seeded next autumn. Many will be in doubt as to the best policy to pursue; those who do not want to plant the land another year, will probably make up their minds to seed down the coming spring; then comes the question, how shall it be seeded down? Shall the grass seed be sown with grain, or shall it be sown alone? If the former, what grain? The answer to these questions must depend very much on conditions. If the land be clear of weed-seeds, it would be best to sow the grass seed alone, but if it be full of weed-seeds some crop should be grown with the grass to choke out the weeds, but there is always an objection to growing any crop with seeding grass roots, because it shades them so much that the young plants, in their efforts to get to the sunlight, run up tall and slender, so that when the grain crop is harvested the young plants are in no condition to withstand the burning July sun; but when the grain is removed, the young grass plants are scorched, and many of them are killed in a few days. When the weeds are numerous they operate the same and sometimes even worse.

Good success is sometimes obtained by *sowing spring rye with grass seed*; sowing it very thin, just enough to protect the young plants, and yet not thick enough to shut out the sunlight so as to make the plants tender. To sow oats with grass seed, and sow a full quantity of seed, is as a rule fatal to the young grass plants, because they shade the ground more than other small grains. Barley is one of the best crops to sow with grass seed when it is thought necessary to sow anything. But whatever is sown should be put into the ground very early in the spring, to give the grass a chance to start before the weed seeds, and thus be able to choke them out. When the land cannot be worked until the last of May, or the first of June, it would, as a rule, be better to let it lay over until the next August.

High dry land is more difficult to deal with than low moist land. The weeds are more likely to trouble, because they grow so early in the season, and also because such land is not so natural for grass as low land, it being more likely to dry up, especially when the plants are small. The autumn as a rule is the best time to seed down such land; but last autumn was an exception, it being so dry that the seed would not have germinated if it had been sown. Those who have such land to seed down will probably make an effort to do it this spring. If the land be clean of weed seeds there will be but little risk of sowing the seed alone, if it be got into the ground immediately after the frost leaves it. On such land the seed will start very early, and if well manured get high er ough to mow in September.

One of the great faults of farmers in seeding down to grass in the spring, is in delaying the work too late in the season, so late that the sun gets hot and the land so dry that a considerable portion of the seed fails to germinate. Most of the grass seeds are so very small that they must be quite near the surface to grow, so near, that during a dry time the soil is too dry to furnish sufficient moisture to start the seed. Clover seed, when it has once commenced to grow, furnishes a plant that will endure dry weather much better than most of the varieties of grasses, because it has a tap root that is sent down several inches when the plant is quite small; in this way it is able to draw up the moisture sufficient to sustain the plant, even in quite dry weather; for this reason the clover is a plant that should be principally relied on in seeding down very light land; but on low or heavy land it should as a rule, be omitted. As light land cannot be depended upon for grass but a few years before ploughed up, the clover makes one of the best crops that can be grown on it, because the roots die in two or three years and furnish to the light soil just the material that is best adapted to the growth of most of the hoed crops. A piece of land which is light and deficient in vegetable substances, is greatly improved by a crop of clover, and when again ploughed up for hoed crops will produce much better crops than before the clover was sown. Those who use principally commercial fertilizers will derive more benefit from a crop of clover, than those who use all barn manure, because the land needs considerable quantities of decayed vegetable substances which is found in barn manure, but is not found in commercial fertilizers.

Those farmers who are short of fodder crops, and depend on their next winter's supply from the land they intended to lay down last fall, may very easily make up the deficiency by sowing the land this spring with oats, if the land be heavy and moist, or bungarian, if it be light and dry; cutting it green and making it into hay.

Either of these crops will be ready to harvest before it is time to seed the land down in the autumn. This no doubt in many cases will be the best policy to pursue, because, then the land will be in a condition to seed down at the proper time to get a good crop the next season, and at the same time the land will be made to bear a good crop the coming season. But to do this, and keep the land up in good condition, a good dressing of manure should be applied in the spring, and a slight dressing in the autumn when the land is seeded down.

WINTER RYE AS A FODDER CROP.

In mingling with the farmers of New England we find that there is a growing feeling against rye fodder. Many are coming to the conclusion that, even when cut very green, it fails to produce as much milk as either oat or barley fodder. If this is so, it is very much to be regretted, because a crop of rye can be grown when otherwise the land, most of the time, would be idle; in fact a crop of winter rye seems almost clear gain, because the keeping of the land covered all winter is a great protection, almost equal to what it draws from the soil during the autumn and spring. It is a crop that seems to fit in with the corn to fill the silo; but advocates of ensilage who have spoken freely on the subject, say that it is very difficult to ensilage rye so as to be readily eaten by the cattle; in fact some of them say that they have been unable to keep it so any of the cattle will eat it, and have been compelled to use it for bedding. If this is so, the sooner farmers know it the less will be the mistakes they will make, for during the last two years the ensilage corn has failed to grow as it should, because not planted until the rye crop was harvested, whereas if no rye had been sown, the corn could have been planted early enough to have given it time to grow before the drouth became severe enough to injure it much.

The question occurs if we are to abandon rye for a green fodder crop, what can we introduce in the place of it? Can we grow winter barley to any advantage? Who has tried it? All admit that barley is a good crop as a fodder for milch cows when cut green. If winter barley could be made to take the place of winter rye, and would produce as much per acre, it would be a step of progress. This is a crop that is grown in some States, but whether it can be grown to advantage in this State, is a question we are not prepared to answer. If any one has had experience with winter barley we hope they will give the readers of the *Ploughman* the advantage of their experience.

The time has come when the Massachusetts farmer should try to get more than one crop a year from the same piece of land.

Correspondence.

"IRRIGATION."

A Wild Statement.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

I am an enthusiastic believer in irrigation. The experience of ages proves its great value. I would certainly do all in my power to encourage it, but in order to do this I would be cautious about making thoughtless, theoretical statements, which could not be borne out by practical facts. I was much interested in the perusal of Col. Wilson's remarks before the Mass. Horticultural Society, but, if correctly quoted, he made a wild statement concerning the cost of irrigation by windmill power, ($5 per year!)

I have studied windmill power very closely from the days of its modern revival and marked improvement in this country. There is no effective windmill pumping apparatus that can be afforded for less than $100. The simple first cost then of the windmill and pump is more than $5 per year, and a $100 apparatus would irrigate a very small patch indeed. But aside from this matter of interest on the investment, the apparatus must do effective duty twenty years without any expense for repairs in order to come within Col. Wilson's limit. There are many who have used wind power for twenty years. *Perhaps* some of them have kept an accurate account of the entire cost for that time. It would be interesting to ascertain how many of them could show a balance of the original investment.

Irrigation at best is costly, and on some sites cannot be made to repay interest on first cost, and I doubt if in this country it can be made to pay anywhere by windmill power. In the first place no effective system of irrigation can be inaugurated without the services of a competent hydraulic engineer, and such services readily command from $5 to $10 per day. Then to carry out the system will generally cost, take the country through, more than the present value of the land. Unless a number of parties join and share in the use of a common plant, as is done in the West, it is extremely doubtful whether irrigation will very generally pay. In most cases it will doubtless pay the small fruit culturist, but I doubt whether it will pay *them* with windmill power. By gravitation and even water power it will pay in numerous localities.

AN OLD HYDRAULIC ENGINEER.

March 10th, 1884.

☞ A correspondent of the Ohio Farmer writes: Sheep fed for a long time on dry feed are perfectly crazy for a bite of grass; will dig it up by the roots; in fact eat the very ground to get it, and does them no good when they do get it. Root fed sheep don't act so; having been fed what the system requires, they are satisfied, they are contented. All sheep wintered on dry feed go through a course of purging as soon as turned out on grass, which weakens them just when they are least able to stand it. In fact, most flockmasters lose more stock between fodder and grass, than all the rest of the year. Root fed sheep purge but very little, many of them not at all. I have yet to lose the first one of mine in this way. My experience teaches me that a flock of breeding ewes judiciously fed on roots will have better and stronger lambs, and being in better condition and having plenty of milk, will raise more of them.

☞ Prof. Sheldon, the English authority on dairy matters, says: "As usual, we follow the lead of our American rivals in these things. Cheese factories and creameries we have copied from you, but we have not run them on anything approaching the thoroughness of America. In the art of breeding cattle for beef we may regard ourselves as quite ahead of you, but you are equally in advance of us in breeding for milk. You come to us for cattle, and then you define and develop their milking properties to a degree which bewilders us not a little. Few men in these islands have taken notice of the milk yielding capacities of their cows."

☞ According to good authority hogs should lose only about 15 per cent. of the live weight in slaughtering—that is, the net dead weight should be 85 per cent. of the live weight.

Questions & Answers.

☞ All questions to the Editor, desiring answer through the *Ploughman*, should be accompanied by all name of the correspondent.

PROPAGATION AND CULTIVATION OF "CARP".

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

There appears at the present time quite a boom on the subject of the propagation and cultivation of the German Carp. I have been carefully watching the progress of the efforts that have been made in that direction for several years with much interest, feeling that perhaps here was an additional industry that might be profitably added to the farming of New England, and have been gratified by the apparent endeavors to thus promote the interests of the farmers. Having visited the propagating ponds at Washington under the patronage of the Government, and observed the method, not only of propagation but the distribution of the young Carp over the country, and having learned of their wonderful growth under suitable conditions, and knowing that there are thousands of acres of ponds naturally well adapted to their requirements, the results to all appearance must be successful so far as their economical production is concerned. But there is one important consideration that seems to have been left out of nearly all that has been published about this new foreigner that is being so rapidly naturalized within our borders.

Now, the important question that I feel is not sufficiently answered, is the quality of the fish after it is grown. I can find but very few persons who have ever eaten of it even among its enthusiastic advocates, never anything said very much in its favor by those who have eaten of it, and I have even heard it hinted that no person who knew what good fish was would care to eat German Carp if they could get anything else to eat. This I consider of great importance, and before we go too far should be well understood, from the habits and the vegetable diet that this fish revels in, one would naturally conclude that the quality of such fish would not be such as would satisfy the farmer's taste, who ought to live upon the best of products.

Will some of your correspondents who are well versed in this matter give us more light?

March 10, 1884. BENJAMIN P. WARE.

For obvious reasons we will let Mr. Peirce answer our correspondent. A year or more ago a New York paper claiming to be something of an authority, took issue with Mr. Peirce on the carp question, but in the brief controversy which followed, came out "second best." Of late, finding that the leading papers of the country, as well as the official authorities of the leading Carp Cultural States, regard Mr. Peirce as the only prominent recognized authority upon the subject, they sought from him the same information as that embodied in our correspondent's queries. We therefore copy the reply as follows:

THE EDIBLE QUALITIES OF CARP.—In his forthcoming book entitled "Carp in American Waters" the treatment of the above mooted question is probably foreshadowed by Capt. Peirce, in the following communication to this paper:

The question is indeed a much mooted one. I have given it all practicable investigation. However divergent the views of fish culturists upon other points, all agree to the unequalled edible qualities of the brook trout when taken from its native habitat. Most fish culturists now also agree to its marked deterioration in flavor when artificially cultivated and fed (as is practically compulsory) on slaughter house refuse.

I was in Boston a few days before last Thanksgiving, which is the "national New England holiday," and was noticing the accumulations of poultry. Of course, the national bird of New England is the turkey, and, it will be remembered by the way, that Franklin maintained it should have been the national bird of the country; however, a more lumpy one as a bird, I, well, as I said, I was noticing the poultry. The turkey had all the "posts" of honor, though a large number "were put to the rack," but the Jersey chicken was next. I was repeatedly informed that New Jersey poultry commanded from three to five cents per pound more than any other in Boston markets. Now, Mr. Editor, I have been spending a large portion of the time since the war in the leading poultry raising section of New Jersey. Although the matchless climate of that region may have some effect upon the poultry, its chief superiority is attained by the intelligent culture which obtains there (I do not refer to "mixture" but to the treatment of poultry). The Jersey women have entire charge of the poultry, and "what they don't know about the business is not worth knowing." The secret of the superior flavor is no secret there. It simply consists in confining the poultry in coops, with slatted floors, raised a foot or two above the earth, so that no filth can accumulate. This is done two or three weeks before marketing, and in the meantime they are given only pure, clean food and drink. This changes the entire flavor of the fowl. Of course the dressing of the fowl has also some effect upon the flavor, but the principal factor is its treatment a few weeks previous to marketing.

Now as to carp. Some of my editorial friends seem to think me an enthusiastic old crank, because I maintain that good, edible fish can be raised in warm and even filthy waters. I have told you how poultry, raised even in the filthiest barn yards, is, in a comparatively short time, transformed into healthy and exquisitely flavored food. The same poultry fattened in barn yards and at once killed is not only ill-flavored but positively unhealthy, sometimes fatally so, the same as the ruffed grouse is known to be when it has been feeding upon poisonous buds or berries in winter. Now I propose to apply the same system to carp that the Jersey women do to poultry, even to their slaughter. The Jersey women would not have their poultry slaughtered by drowning or otherwise smothering them, nor would I take fish from the waters and allow them to smother and die as is generally done with the fish we eat in this country. But, for obvious reasons I must tell part of the story in my forthcoming book.

MILTON P. PEIRCE.

Philadelphia, Pa.

In direct reply to our correspondent Mr. Peirce says:

"I am glad your correspondent seeks light concerning this promising new industry, which, as he intimates, is attracting more attention in this country than has ever been developed in the history of any other industry in the same length of time.

In the first place I wish to say that we do not call them "German Carp" any more. They are no more German than French, Swiss, Austrian or any other European locality, in all of which they have cultivated them for centuries (which ought to be some proof of their edible qualities) but they are of Asiatic origin. We happened to get our stock from Germany, and very poor stock the first proved to be too, but they sent us better a year later, which are improving marvellously in American waters, and now we call them "American Carp." Your correspondent saw the Government ponds at Washington. Well, they are the most German of anything connected with carp culture in this country. He can find within fifty miles of Philadelphia scores of carp ponds as much in advance of the Washington ponds as those are in advance of a common brick yard pond for purposes of carp culture, and before this time next year he can find quite a number of our improved ponds in New England. Your correspondent speaks of "thousands of acres of ponds naturally well adapted to their requirements." In this he is badly "off soundings," just where forty-nine out of every fifty drift upon the subject of carp culture. About one in fifty seem to realize that carp culture can no more be made a success without system than any other business. Forty-nine out of fifty seem to think that if they have any body of water from a permanent mud hole up to a huge lake, they have but to introduce a few carp, when after a brief time they can commence a perpetual harvest. If they have a mud hole they can at least supply their own tables; if the lake, then they can glut the markets.

And now as to the objective feature of the communication. Your correspondent writes as if carp were some new invention yet untried. I hope he has a Bible in the house. If so, I wish to refer him to Isaiah 19: 8-10. He will perhaps discover that fish culture was a recognized industry 2,600 years ago. But the Chinese have records several thousands of years older than this, showing that carp culture was an industry there at the time, and that the same paraphernalia was required as that spoken of in Isaiah. Now, can it be that in all these thousands of years with hundreds of thousands of acres of carp ponds, supporting in great part millions of human beings; when many of the prominent dishes served at the historic Roman feasts are known to have been purely of carp; can it be in all this time that no epicures have been developed capable of judging of the edible qualities of carp?

But to come briefly home. I have about 130 direct testimonials from persons who have, together with families and friends, amounting in the aggregate to probably not less than 700 persons, tested the edible qualities of carp and pronounce the same excellent, *and in no case have they been tested under the most favorable circumstances.*

MILTON P. PEIRCE,
Sec. Am. Carp Cultural Association,
Philadelphia, Pa.

The Horse.

PERCHERON HORSES IN NEW YORK.

(N. Y. Tribune.)

The stables of Bonner and Vanderbilt, with their contents of pampered pets of the road, have been often described in print. No one seems to have thought of looking elsewhere for information on the subject of horses than to establishments where the 'fly-ers' abound. A reporter who dropped by chance into the great stables of B. T. Babbit, in Washington street, was surprised to find a horse palace almost the equal of any of the homes of the trotters, and fully as interesting. The animals were not slender limbed, long necked racers, but mammoth bodied draft horses of Norman Percheron breed. There are twenty of these great beasts, that are cared for with as much pride as if they were good for 2.15 in speed. Slow in motion, immense strength, with great neck and shoulders, heavy jaws and legs like mill posts, these gentle eyed giants of the horse world are a curious study. Mr. Babbit bought a pair of Norman Percheron horses from a Chicago stock raiser about eight years ago. These are still on his farm at Bedford, N. Y., where the others have been raised. It has been a hobby with Mr. Babbit to surround these animals with all the luxuries of the horse kingdom, and that he has succeeded, his stables give every evidence.

Isaac H. Dahlman, whose extensive stables are in East Twenty fourth street, has been the principal importer of the Percheron, and the extent of their introduction in this country, a reporter engaged Mr. Dahlman in a quiet chat on the subject. Said he:—

"We now handle about 40 of these large draft horses per week. They are bred in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, being the cross from original importations. We import the stallions and sell or let to breeders. In August and December we brought over from France 23 horses of the Norman and coach breeds. The Normans cost $1300 to $2000 each; the coaches $1500 to $2000. The cross from the Norman ranges in weight from 1200 to 1700 pounds and sells at $250 to $350. They are all sold for draft purposes for which they are the top of the heap. They stand our climate well; break and train easy. They are not such enormous eaters as one would suppose, and they can pull the biggest loads. They are the best warm weather horses that we can get in New York. The brewers are now using them extensively on that account. They wont have a Clydesdale if they know it. Yes we handle all kinds of horses. Our sales last year reached a total of over 11,000. We get horses from all over the West—a good many from Kentucky. The breeding from French coach stallions promises to be a big feature. The characteristic of that strain is high action. The Norman cross is a good farm horse as well as draft, but it is to the latter use that he is adapted.

At the American horse exchange a man well informed on such matters said:—

"Raising heavy draft horses probably yields the most money at present for the capital invested. But the big money of the near future is for those who furnish a stylish coach horse. The importation of draft stallions has greatly increased the value of our coach horses, but as the farm back of the past approaches too near the pure blooded draft horse by just so much he loses value as a farm horse. The full blooded Norman Percheron, though useful in crossing with native mares, to give increased weight, is wholly undesirable himself as a farm horse, being clumsy where much sprightliness is needed for the general work of agriculture. There is already a reaction in favor of horses of lighter weight and more activity for country use. For slow, heavy work in city the large draft horses have their highest sphere of use. The horses for all purposes—which is the horse we are always looking for—is neither large or small, but substantial, with good bone, activity and endurance. The man who can breed such animals in a steady strain will make his fortune."

TO DESTROY WIRE WORMS.

I have more than once freed fields entirely from wire worms by sowing a crop of white mustard seed. I once sowed a whole field of forty odd acres, which had not repaid me for many years in consequence of every crop being destroyed by this wire worm, to white mustard. I am warranted in saying that not a single wire worm could be found the following year, and the succeeding crop of wheat was a fine one.—[English Farmer.

☞ Thirty thousand dozen eggs were recently received by a single steamer in New York. They came from Germany, and many of them were limed by a superior German process.

Horticulture.

GROWING SMALL FRUITS.

(Lewiston Journal.)

While New York is noted for small fruits as well as Massachusetts much nearer us, but very little account is made of such in our good State of Maine which is so well adapted to their culture. To be sure there are a few fields of small fruits, but compared to what there should be, small fruit culture is as yet in its infancy. Not that all can or will make a business of fruit growing, and it is well and good that all do not see and all do not think alike in this respect. Yet I do believe there are many who would find it profitable and a great pleasure to cultivate at least enough for family use. But the common excuse is they don't know how. We may as well say we don't know how to farm for how many run the farm without hardly thinking of the fundamental principles which are necessary to success. And right here I will give one of the first rules; in some way utilize that sink water and compost with suds, leaves or anything that will make dressing, also the slops from the house and suds from the washtub.

Now it is not half the job to grow small fruits that one would suppose. We would prepare the land about as for corn, and for the black raspberry we would furrow both ways seven and eight feet and set plants where these furrows cross. Two years old plants are more sure to grow than young tender ones. They should be cut back to within six inches, and a little mulching spread over this, especially if set in the fall, which I prefer. As soon as they are some eight inches high, I pinch off the ends, and as soon as they throw out side shoots, I cut off the ends of these and so keep them cut back enough to make the plants make a compact and stocky hill, which will fruit some the next year. This cutting back may seem to be too much work, but with a long sharp knife, one can go over a large field in a short time, and they will be more pleased with the large clusters of monster berries. Cultivated this way it is easy to get among them, while if allowed to grow rank, as they would reach from row to row, and only a few slender canes at best, so that cultivation would be stopped and weeds and grass would soon destroy the plants.

This heading in, causes them to be more hardy, and is also the way to increase plants from black sorts. For sets, I usually grow from new land plants. I, of course, have planted the second year much larger than the first, (and they must be cut back, that they are left about double the height of the first year.) Then the last of August, I bend down the shoots and cover about five inches of the tip, and they will soon form fine plants. We need not lose any land between the rows the first year, for we can plant a thick row of beans, or some root crop, in the 8 feet rows and plant a short space between the 7 feet space, and the horse and cultivator can do most of the hoeing. Strawberries, also, may be planted between the rows, instead of other crops, which will give us more fruit the second season, that the raspberry can take the entire land. I have gathered nine quarts of berries from one hill the second year of Doolittle raspberries, which sold for ten cents per quart. Two hundred hills can be grown on a fourth acre giving us $180 or $720, for one acre or even, if they produce half as much, would be big work for a boy. I do not wish anyone to think this can be done by a slip shod method, or any more than a profitable field of corn can be grown without proper care, but I do know with a little care of the right sort at the right time, one will almost surprise himself.

I speak more of the black raspberry, because its culture requires less labor than the red.

The latter throw up numerous shoots over the ground, which must be attended to so often, and kept down, or they will soon swamp the whole place, and yield but very little fruit, while the black sorts throw up only a few stalks near the old ones, and can be easily controlled.

After the first season, all the old canes must be cut as soon as the fruit is gathered, and taken off the ground, out of the way of the cultivator next spring. The land should not be stirred after August, as it prevents the canes from ripening its wood, and is thus more likely to winter kill. I have found the Doolittle to be the most hardy of any I have ever fruited, though I am just putting out a few new sorts which are spoken of as good in all respects.

Not more than four or five canes should be allowed to grow in a hill, and when they are trimmed or headed back early and often they will look more like a large bay tumble than anything, and the berries will be nearly all on the outside. Blackberries are grown in this way, only they throw up shoots between the hills, as does the red raspberry. For many years I could not get plants hardy enough to endure our winters, but ever since the Agawam came out, we had a perfect one in all respects. I have fruited it five years, and know it is nearly perfect. I set one fourth acre of them last fall, with strawberry plants between the rows, as described above for raspberries. Last fall I set some half way between apple trees, on an old unplowed pasture, about half an acre. I shall mulch them and also the trees, which are 30 feet apart, so that the blackberries will have plenty of room and some to spare. This sort are sold for 15 cents a quart, and are a week earlier than the wild sorts. But like the fruit trees, they must be trimmed properly and in season, with other care, to be be profitable, and then they are far beyond anticipation.

The red raspberries are grown in similar manner, only the rows are half the distance apart. They are not hardy, usually as the black sorts, though by not cultivating as late than August 1st, and when headed in early they prove satisfactory. I choose a moist soil for raspberries, but if mulched thoroughly in dry weather they will do very well on dryish land. As the soil must be dressed after a few years, a little manure can be wheeled between the rows and some spread around the hills late in the fall after growth has ceased, or ashes can be applied at the same season, and a little salt and bone meal is excellent. A plantation well attended to will last many years. One thing more in favor of raspberries is they are one of the best honey plants, especially the red ones, and as they are in bloom some time, are of up small account in this respect. The bees work on the blossoms early and late, and the honey is very fine, while the fruit is good in many ways; we can dry them, preserve them, or sell them.

☞ The Vermont Dairymen's Association discussed the subject of ensilage quite voluminously at their recent meeting. Mr. Simons who gets three hundred pounds of butter annually from each of his ten cows, said he had been getting higher prices for his product since he began feeding ensilage. He thinks, however, that if he had invested in fertilizer the money his silo and apparatus cost and spread it upon his best meadows, he would have increased his hay crop to the full value of all the ensilage his silo will hold. If the silo should be swallowed by an earthquake he would try the fertilizer awhile before building another. By a rising vote taken at the close of the discussion it was found that 33 farmers present have silos in use that are giving satisfaction, and two who have tried them are dissatisfied with the results.—[Michigan Farmer.

☞ A New Jersey farmer writes to the New York Herald that he gave a dressing of salt (eight bushels to the acre) to land badly infested with land grubs, and for three years after raised good crops of corn, which was impossible previous to this application.

Correspondence.

"ADULTERATIONS"

And the State Board of Health.

BY ISRAEL PUTNAM.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

In the *Ploughman*, February 23d, is a letter from Geo. T. Angell to Dio Lewis's February Monthly, which should be copied into every journal that professes the welfare of the people, as it interests every man, woman and child that can read.

It gives me pleasure to see the farmers looking after their interests. In answer to Mr. Moore in the *Ploughman*, March 1st, I would say Dr. Davenport is concerned in doing a good work. My remarks I refer more especially to milk and vinegar, as far as food and drugs are concerned is well enough with a certain portion of the State. It is impossible for one set of men to sit down here in one corner of the State and look after the milk and vinegar through all the cities and large towns.

In conversation with Drs. Abbott and Walker, at their office a few days since, our conversation was mostly in regard to Lowell milk dealers, what they had done in Lowell. They informed me that they had taken thirteen samples of milk from stores which had been licensed to sell milk; from one was up to the standard. I asked them why they did not commence with the milk pedlers. They told me they had no right to stop the pedlers and take samples. They don't seem to know where to begin this work. The milk supply for Lowell is picked by the milk pedlers from the various farms in the vicinity of Lowell, usually the day before delivery, and emptied into large tanks and prepared for the next day. How they manipulate is a secret of their own; all these stores are supplied from these milk pedlers in most cases, and should be responsible. It is reported more water has been sold for milk the past season in Lowell than ever before, even the milk pedlers brag of it. I was informed a few days since that a pedler was supplying a customer at 4 1-2 cents, another steps in and sells for 4 cents. The first says he can put water enough in it to sell for 4 1-2 cents, but would not sell for four cents. If anything is going to be done, it must begin at the fountain head. If there is no law to stop and examine the contents of their carts, there should be one made, and a penalty if refused; all the small cities supplied by pedlers, the same as Lowell. All the cities have a police to look after petty thieves; why should not they be required to look after the milk pedlers that make it a business every day? I do not begrudge the milkman his honest money, but I do abhor thieving in any shape. As regards Dr. Bowker, I believe he is just as honest in this work as I am. From my personal acquaintance with him, I think he is much abused. I commenced this work, and I shall leave nothing undone that I can do to eradicate these adulterations. I am so disgusted with these evils I would not shield any man, not even a brother.

March 3d, 1884.

"THE MILK ORGANIZATION."

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

There is an active interest in the movement of the New England Milk Producers' Association. Its branch organizations are forming in a great many towns and villages throughout the State, including Wilton, N. H., and other places in that State. Westboro' has in previous years been the centre of our greatest milk producing sections, and to-day stands well towards the top in the list. At a recent meeting of milk producers called by the chairman of a committee chosen by the New England Milk Producers' Association, we were addressed by Mr. Baker the President, Mr. Smith, its secretary, Mr. Tuttle of Concord, and a gentleman from Leominster. Grafton, Hopkinton and Holliston, together with Upton, Southboro and Shrewsbury, were represented, and a lively movement in the organization of the milk producers in all the above towns was very noticeable. Westboro has always been foremost in this movement, and naturally its neighboring towns look to us for a leading organization, which was completed in the midst of a very enthusiastic gathering. Every producer of milk joined the organization by paying $1.00 that was present. Those that were not already members Mr. Baker informed them that the Association had a charter to establish a central depot in the limits of the city to handle the milk, and to sell direct to consumers from the company, doing away with a large percentage of middlemen. It occurs to me that this is a step in the right direction. It may take several years to accomplish a perfect system, but it is a fact well worth considering. Our surplus milk could all be utilized in making butter and cheese. This company will be managed in a business way by managers chosen by the New England Milk Producers' Association, or company or officers chosen by the majority that holds the stock of the concern. There are farmers enough that stand to-day ready to subscribe for stock enough to erect a milk depot and creamery of the most approved plan, and what it wants is simply organization. It would not only involve the milk question, but would regulate the prices of all other farm products, cereals, beef, pork, &c.; the farmer could call for the quotations of prices of his stock and trade, as the grocer or dealer in flour, sugar and coal, and would realize as much as his neighbor; neither do I think it would rest as a local organization, but other States would soon follow and it would be a National organization. The farmer of today cannot demand for his products above what his local market chooses to give him. There is no system, no rule or business about it; a guess and don't know sort of a way of doing business. I contend a farmer, however humble his situation, can manage his farming on business principles, have a system, keep a set of books and know what he is doing, attend the local agricultural clubs, join the organization, and if he cannot be heard let his name appear on its list; it shows an enterprise, a will and desire to help in this good work. Many towns and small places cannot erect creameries, but I advise all that can do so to join together and erect creameries.

I have made butter myself and managed the whole business the past summer. I got my idea from a young man not over twenty-one, who built him a creamery and commenced with two cows. To-day he has fifteen cows, 1 yoke of oxen and a horse. His twenty acres of land, which four years ago was almost barren, to-day is yielding to the effects of manure and the plough. He has a silo, and makes a quality of butter that the Boylston marketmen pay him eight cents a pound for above the market rates. The least we can do is to join the New England Milk Producers' Association, and one and all that tills the soil will see the most complete organization to protect the farmers' interests ever before organized.

Worcester Co., March 8. J. SKILTON.

"LAGTEAL."

To the Editor Massachusetts Ploughman.

The past week although cold and stormy has been a revival one among the farmers. There has been no lack of interest, and a large amount of missionary work has been done in towns on the Boston & Albany railroad.

Although the farmers have got left in this section more than once with milk on their hands, while other sections flooded the market, they have responded nobly to the call of conventions and have stood up and been counted with the large army of men who mean business.

Large meetings have been held in Westboro', Southboro', Northboro', Shrewsbury and Bedford, in fact along the line.

I noticed in the Boston Journal, Feb. 29th, a meeting of the Suffolk Medical Society, to discuss milk and its supply for cities and large towns; a committee was chosen to investigate the present system.

This unexpected aid is coming at the right moment, and will be fruitful of much good. They are men who can instil into the public, especially their patients, the importance of using a pure article, and the consequent danger of having the adulterated stuff now forced upon the market. If milk could be delivered "and it soon will be," to consumers as it comes from the farm, there would be a scarcity for the markets. There would not be the surplus that contractors make such a hue and cry about; it is the key to the whole problem.

We have been sold by the contractors that the cost of making milk has nothing to do with the price. Yes, Mr. Farmer, it is the supply and demand that governs the market, the cost has nothing to do with it. Remember it is the supply and demand. Now let us see where the supply comes from. With ninety per cent of adulterated milk sold to consumers and in most cases to a very great extent, is the cause of the great supply and the great evil we have to contend against.

Where did it come from last August and September when the earth was as brown as a nut, and as bare as the desert of Sahara. I think there has been wool pulled over our eyes long enough, but not so thick but we can see through it—and there are but few of us so blind that they wont see. If there are any, let them carry their cateracts and grey hairs down in sorrow, etc

The Milk Producers Organizing.

We are organized from Weston
To the river Sow-he-gan,
Where David's hosts of farmers
Raise milk to fill his cans.

Come rally round the standard, men,
It won't be half the fight
We had from sixty-one to five,
If you only know your might.

Stand up, you weak kneed gentry,
We'll guarantee the loss
On every can of milk you spill
For twice the sum it cost

Adulteration now must cease,
Physicians say so too;
"When

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, MAR. 15, 1884.

☞ *Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.*

The treaty of peace between Chili and Peru has been ratified by the constitutional assembly of Peru.

Herbert Spenser, the English philospher, declines to stand for an election to Parliament for Leicester.

The British advance against Osman Digna's forces was deferred until Wednesday morning, and a general battle was to have come up on Friday.

Oxford University, England, has decided to grant to women the same examination as men are compelled to pass as a condition or admission to that University.

The German police have been ordered by the government to institute a strict search of the baggage of passengers arriving by steamers at German ports, to prevent the importation of dynamite.

It has been found necessary to call an ecclesiastical council, with a number of clergymen from New England, to adjust the controversy between Rev. Dr. Newman and his church in New York.

The entire correspondence between the Secretary of State and the German Minister to the United States, on the subject of the return of the Lasker resolutions to Congress, has been published this week.

The New England Cremation Society of this city discovers that it will be obliged to apply to the Legislature for a special charter, in order to give its subscribed stock the desired value, and some delay will be caused by it.

A general convention of colored men is to be held at Pittsburg, Penn., on the 29th of April, in obedience to a call issued by the Illinois state central committee of colored men. The movement is expected to bear on the presidential campaign.

Dr. Mary Walker gave a black eye to a colored messenger in one of the committee rooms of the Capitol at Washington, for impertinently taking up the silk hat which she had laid aside on entering the room and putting it on his own head.

A portion of the British troops at Zariba were attacked by the advance forces of Osman Digna on Tuesday night but were finally repulsed. Gen. Graham's intention was to make a forward movement himself by daybreak, but the enemy outwitted him.

The French government is to be requested to suspend the present embargo on pork until the councils general of the several departments, to whom the question of importation of pork into France, has been submitted, has rendered a final decision on the subject.

The Paris correspondent of the London Standard says that an "advanced" Irish nationalist has declared that his party are far from being discouraged at the failure of the recent dynamite attempts. He said they are determined to persevere, and predicted a long series of explosions in England in the immediate future.

The council called to adjust the difficulty in the Madison Avenue Church, New York, between Rev. Dr. Newman and a portion of his congregation, convened at the church and organized by the choise of Rev. Dr. H. M. Dexter of Boston as moderator. The council at once proceeded to consider the relations of the Doctor to the church over which he has been pastor for four years past.

Mr. William A. Cook, who has been testifying before the Springer Committee of Congress on the prosecution of the star route cases by the Government, gives his opinion freely that Guiteau had associates in the work of assassinating the President, and was decidedly inclined to believe that it was the bitterness of feeling caused by the star route investigation that led to the President's murder.

The Senate foreign relations committee has agreed on a bill concerning the hog question in foreign ports. It provides for the appointment of inspectors where meats are packed, who are to certify to the quality of the pork. In case any foreign government still insists on prohibiting the importation of meats from this country, the President is empowered to adopt such retaliatory regulations toward such governments as will protect the interests of the United States.

CONGRESS.

The House voted, at last, by a bare majority of 12, to consider the bonded whiskey bill. The debate on the post-office appropriation bill has been going on. The shipping committee reported adversely on the bill to admit foreign built ships free of duty. A bill has been favorably reported abolishing the four years' term of certain federal offices. The Senate has had under consideration the Mexican treaty and the Fitz John Porter bill. The Morrison Tariff bill was reported from the committee to the House on Tuesday. Secretary Folger has withdrawn his objections to the sixth section of the Potter refunding bill. Senator Blair's educational measure, providing for establishing common schools afters pending $98,000 in the next ten years, will follow the Fitz John Porter bill. The Senate is thought to favor some such scheme, though it will be insisted that the expenditure of the money be kept in the hands of the Federal government. The bill providing for the establishment of a bureau of statistics was discussed in the Senate at length. A large number of bills was introduced in the House. A variety of measures relating to the District of Columbia were passed. Documents received from the Secretary of State concerning the resolution of the House on the death of Herr Lasker were read. It is alleged that new evidence has been found against Fitz John Porter, but it is not generally credited. The Morrison tariff bill is to await the action of the House on the appropriation bills. The sub-committee charged with the subject of retaliatory legislation on the pork question, were expected to make a report on Friday of the present week. The Senate, in executive session, ratified the Mexican treaty by a vote of 41 to 20. A minority, as well as a majority, report was submitted to the House on the tariff bill.

AT THE STATE HOUSE.

Water supply bills for the various cities and towns have been working their way through both branches. The reports of the liquor law committee on a number of bills were accepted by the Senate. The House engrossed the bill to enable cities and towns to prosecute or defend actions in the name of or against abolished school districts; also, the bill authorizing cities and towns to issue notes, bonds, and scrip. The Senate passed to be engrossed the bill to provide for five cent car fares in Boston, and to abolish commutation checks. A resolve, elsewhere referred to in this issue, was reported from the committee on agriculture appropriating $36,000 to the State Agricultural College. The elevated roads bill was ordered by the House to be printed as it passed the Senate. A bill was reported in the House regulating the election of assessors and assistant assessors in Boston. A bill was admitted in the House, punishing wife beating by flogging on the bare back; also a minority bill to compel all dog owners to keep their dogs on their premises or under their control. The amendments to the elevated roads bill were concurred in without debate. A bill was introduced in the Senate to repeal the four hundred feet school house liquor law.

THE STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

This legislative committee has reported the following resolution in aid of the State Agricultural College at Amherst:

Resolved, that there be allowed and paid out of the treasury of the commonwealth a sum no exceeding $36,000, the same to be expended under the direction of the trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural College for the following purposes, to wit: $6000 for the completion of the dwelling house of the president of said college; $6000 for repairs and improvements on the north college and other buildings connected with said college; and $25,000 for the erection of a new brick or stone building, to be situated on the grounds of said college, and to be used for a cabinet of natural history collections, a chapel for lectures and religious services and a library and a reading room.

It is to be understood that the appropriations carried in the foregoing resolve are not for the support of the College itself, but for providing such increased facilities as are clearly requisite for the most complete educational service which the College can give to the young men of the State. The erection of a dwelling for the President naturally grows out of the necessities of the case; while the expense of repairs is no more than what is involved in the State's keeping its contract with the United States in respect to the continuance of an institution whose establishment was guaranteed by both conjointly. These are but what are to be expected in the naturnl order of things, and cannot give rise to debate.

In respect to the proposed appropriation of $25,000 for the erection of a new brick or stone building, to be used for a cabinet of natural history collections, a chapel for lectures, and religious services, and a library and a reading room, there is more to be said. If the appropriation asked for by the committee is in any sense extraordinary, it is none the less for such purposes as must be served in an institution with any pretentions to breadth or elevation of character and thoroughness of service. Such a building is needed now, and its erection will give a fresh impetus to the influence which the College already exercises in the community. It will quicken and extend that influence very greatly.

Of the necessity of suitable provision for natural history collections there can be no serious question whatever. Such collections are an essential part of all education in this time, and are especially so in the case of an education which is specially agricultural in its direction. They of course cannot be made without adequate space for classification, for convenience, and for the most effective presentation to the youthful mind, and that requires architectual arrangements to correspond. This is not the merely ornamental branch of an agricultural education which some might infer, but on the contrary performs continual service in a way which no other provision could take the place of.

The propriety of furnishing a place for the library which is already so generously begun and is sure of a rapid growth and expansion though private generosity, is something that ought not to be ob iged to confront a single objection. A College without a library would indeed be a one sided institution. Good work cannot be expected without implements, and none are more effective or necessary than books. And a reading room as the companion to a library everybody can instantly see and appreciate the value of. Where one is, the other ought always to be also; and, in fact, such is the universal custom.

The State College should by all means have a lecture room and chapel for religious services- else it is as without one of its two hands. President Greenough, as we were very well apprised at the time of his leaving his other field of service to accept the Presidency of the State College, assumed the responsible office which he now holds with the most profound convictions on the subject of the moral, at the same time with the intellectual and practical, education of the young men who might constitute his charge; and from the first, in season and out of season, he has labored especially for the moral culture of the increasing body of students collected at t he State College. A place convenient for religious services every Sunday is therefore a leading desideratum in order to answer to these requirements in any adequate manner. The erection of a building in which such services can be held with regularity will increase and deepen the confidence of those who have sons to send to the College for an education more than almost anything else could.

The past year has witnessed a large increase of students under the law which allows 80 *free scholarsyip* from the several Senatorial districts of the State, in addition to the natural increase from other quarters. The College thus becomes in a double sense a State institution, to be kept under its guidance and to be strength. ened and sustained by all the means in its power.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

Gov. Robie and Council, of Maine, and Dr. Bailey of the Board of Cattle Commissioners, visited the Government quarantine station at Portland on Monday of the current week, to investigate the efficiency of the measures taken to prevent the spread of the foot and mouth disease. Dr. Bailey explained what had been done to carry out the laws of the State. Beyond the limits of the four farms reported affected no cases had been discovered, and all these were found to be in a state of rapid recovery. At a subsequent meeting of the Governor and Council a letter was read from Dr. McEachnan, of the Montreal Veterinary College, who is at the head of the Cattle Commission in Canada, detailing the precautionary measures found necessary to prevent the spread of the disease in Canada and Scotland. The Doctor states that everything which has come in contact with infected cattle or been in any way exposed, should be either destroyed or thoroughly disinfected, otherwise it will surely propagate the disease. He likewise urged the extension of the quarantine limits to one mile from the infested district, and the closing of the roads to neat stock over which the diseased cattle were driven, till the roads can be disinfected and sufficient time has elapsed to prevent contagion.

Gov. Robie and Council, in conformity to this last suggestion, decided to request the authorities of the town of Deering and of Portland to close the roads over which the infected cattle were driven from the steamship wharves, by posting notices containing an abstract of the State law; and in case the roads are not closed, that the Cattle Commissioners or the Governor and Council will enforce the law on the statute book. Great pains will be taken to disinfect the road at the crossings. In consequence of the damage already done to the property of the farmers of Deering, a committee of the council was appointed to effect a satisfactory settlement with them. With this energetic and thorough action in the matter by the highest authorities of the State, there is every reason to believe that the foot and mouth disease will be speedily eradicated from that locality. The appearance of the disease in Kansas has caused much excitement, the State officials urging immediate action on the pleuro-pneumonia bill before Congress through the several representatives in both branches of that body. Similar telegrams from Kansas have been received by Commissioner Loring. Veterinary surgeons are asked for to be sent by Congress, to aid the incapable local authorities in suppressing the disease.

☞ *The Union Bank*, of Jackson, Michigan, is organized as a Savings Bank, with a capital stock of $100,000. Its President is W. H. Withington, who is associated with a competent body of executive officers and sustained by a solid staff of directors, of which he is the acknowledged head. We have received a fresh and handsome pamphlet statement of the Bank's purposes and standing, including a detailed exposition of its savings department rules and methods. The capital being $100,000, and the stockholders being liable for a similar amount, there is thus an aggregate fund of $200,000 as security for depositors, which is practic lly absolute, and the bank is one of the strongest in Michigan. The illustrations of thrift and the accompanying precepts and proverbs make the neat pamphlet presenting its claims to the public a really interesting object of study. Mr. Withington, the President, is a large dealer in agricultural implements in Michigan, and as a Boston boy will be remembered by many of our citizens. He was at one time actively engaged in furthering the interests of the Mercantile Library Association, whose continued welfare is still very dear to him. As a citizen of Jackson he enjoys the confidence and esteem of all around him, scattering rays of beneficence all along his path.

☞ *What Shall We Name It?* is the title of a little pamphlet dictionary of baptismal names for children. It contains 2000 such, with their meaning and the countries in which they originated. Some people may be saved much trouble by consulting it. John C. Stockwell, New York.

THE "GRANGE."

Decisions of Grand Master Woodman.

We are in receipt of the accompanying decisions, recently issued by Brother J. J. Woodman, Master of the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, which he has caused to be promulgated on an appeal taken from the following instructions issued by the Master of a State Grange. These decisions of our most worthy Brother will not fail to be read with a lively interest by the brethren in the Massachusetts State Grange and in all others in the country. The worthy brethren will readily see the points taken and the pertinency, the broad sense, and the constitutional justice of the decisions rendered upon them. There is a clearness and comprehensiveness in Brother Woodman's way of considering questions relating to the interests of the Order that is wholly admirable: his manner of rendering decisions carries an authority with it that provokes acquiescence rather than dispute; and his large experience in matters of ruling has given his mind a readiness as well as a fullness in that direction, which begets confidence in all those who await his declarations and decisions. The common reasoning of the brethren in all granges will at once grasp the force which Brother Woodman applies to the several questions, and assent to the justice of his decisions.

In this place, and at this time, it may be more fitting than at any other for us to express briefly the sentiment of thorough satisfaction which pervades the granges of the country at the ability, the efficiency, the devotion, and the dignity with which Brother Woodman of Michigan presides over the varied and extended interests of the National Grange in the office of Master. It is no exaggeration to say that it would be extremely difficult to find a man better qualified for that responsible and representative position, or one who would be more deservedly popular with the brethren in all parts of the country. His extensive legislative experience, in the course of which he presided over the House of Representatives of the Michigan Legislature for four successive years, is of the highest value to him and to the Order in whose service he is conspicuously enlisted. He possesses the requisite faculty of seeing quickly, seizing strongly, considering broadly, and deciding promptly. The decisions that follow will sufficiently show it. We owe him an open acknowledgement of thanks for sending us an early copy of the same, thus enabling the *Ploughman* to lay them before the brethren promptly and without abbreviation. The Patrons of Husbandry have every reason to congratulate themselves on their present position before the country.

Decisions of the Master of the National Grange.

"According to a change made in the clause defining eligibility to membership in the Order at the last session of the National Grange, any person is *eligible* who has *no business or interest* in *conflict* with that of agriculture; and the farmer. So each Grange must decide for itself as to whether the merchant, lawyer, etc., would be found, with the spirit of the Order, and will be helpful and desirable members, if admitted; and remember that we must be guided by the words of the majority," and if in the minority, acquiesce with all due grace."

It is evident that the Master of the State Grange has fallen into error, a misapprehension of the effect of the action of the National Grange referred to, upon the qualification of candidates for admission to the Order. Article 4 of the constitution adopted at the sixth annual session of the National Grange, defined eligibility to membership in the Order, as follows:

"Any person interested in agricultural pursuits, of the age of sixteen years (female), and eighteen years (male), duly proposed, initiated and complying with the rules and regulations of the Order, is entitled to membership, etc.,

Some deputies who went out to organize Granges, decided in their minds that every person was *interested in agricultural pursuits*, and consequently eligible to membership. The result was very detrimental to the welfare of said Order, and Worthy Master Dudley M. Adams called the attention of the National Grange to this question, at the Seventh annual session; and an amendment to the constitution was then offered and submitted to the State Granges as follows:

"Amend article five of the Constitution so as to read: "*Engaged in agriculture pursuits, and interested in agricultural pursuits with our purposes*" instead of "*Interested in agricultural pursuits.*"

The submission of this amendment was supplemented by the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That in the sense of the National Grange, the expression, "Interested in agricultural pursuits" in article five of the constitution, means "Engaged in agricultural pursuits, and having no business interest with the Order."

Although this amendment was ratified by the State Granges in 1874, yet it appears that before its ratification, Worthy Master Adams, issued the following decision, based upon the language as it was, the resolution submitting the amendment, and the one defining the meaning of the paragraph proposed to be amended.

"Interested in agricultural pursuits" and "engaged in agricultural pursuits," as used in the Constitution and resolutions of the National Grange, mean that a person must be engaged in agriculture to a greater extent than in any other business, or in other words, his leading business must be agriculture."

As this decision was made prior to the ratification of the amendment, and without doubt was in necessary at that time, as the law then construed to exclude from membership in the Order a class of farmers not contemplated by the National Grange in framing the amendments as originally adopted by Worthy Master Adams in making the decision, viz.: those who not only own and live upon their farms, but are in fact, practical farmers; but have investments or other business interests not directly connected with their farming, or draw salaries for personal services, or the lawyer, public officer, etc., which may demand more of their personal attention, and perhaps bring a greater income than their farms—the National Grange, for this reason, deemed the decision rendered a hindrance to progressive work than beneficial, and repealed it.

By this act, no change has been made in the constitutional qualification of candidates; and none by the words "engaged in agriculture," who has no business or interest in conflict with agriculture and the farmer," or by which "merchants, lawyers and postal clerks" can be admitted to membership.

The constitutional provision, defining the qualification of candidates for membership in the Order, stands as framed and submitted by the National Grange, and as ratified by the State Granges, with its clear and well defined language to govern officers and members of Subordinate Granges in the admission of new members.

I therefore make the following decisions upon the questions involved in the appeal.

1st. The Order of Patrons of Husbandry is a *farmers'* organization; and none but those who are actually "*engaged* in agriculture," or in other words, are *farmers* in the general acceptation of that term, and "have no interest in conflict with its purposes," are eligible to membership.

2nd. A Subordinate Grange cannot decide by a majority vote, upon the qualification or eligibility of an applicant for membership, but must take how members should vote; but each member has an individual right, subject only to the requirements of the Patrons' obligations to support the constitution, rules and regulations of the Order, to cast a free and secret ballot for or against every candidate for initiation; and in all cases, three negative votes reject the candidate.

3d. It is made the duty of a Master of a Grange, both by the law of the Order, and his official obligation, "not to allow a ballot to be taken on the application of a person who from any cause is clearly ineligible to membership.

J. J WOODMAN,
Master of the National Grange, P. of H.

THE COOKING SCHOOL.

The average girl at marriage, is well instructed in sewing. To her husband, at the head of a family without a fair knowledge of this useful household art, would be to disgrace her mother and herself in the minds of all their acquaintances. The average young bride goes to her home of her own with a few practical ideas on a matter which will have to come before her three a day, and one in which the health and general prosperity of herself and others most essentially depend. Then, if ever she acquires even a passable skill in cookery it will doubtlessly be through much wasting and worrying and manifold non-successes. Meantime dyspepsia, or other evil angel, is lurking in the shadow of her table. To the young wife and housekeeper no circumstanced half the terrors of the kitchen are at once removed by the introduction of the ever ready, never failing, Royal Baking Powder. With its proper use there can never be failure in bread, biscuit or cake, while the perfect healthfulness of the food produced is likewise so well assured that all who partake may confidently snap their fingers in the face of old Dyspepsia. This point gained, the victory over inexperience and bad luck in other things is speedily won. The Royal Baking Powder, on account of its superior powers as a leavening agent, the great facility with which it may be used, its proved economy, and its thoroughly established wholesomeness and purity as established by the tests of government chemists and others, has become the general substitute for cream of tartar and soda in the making of nice, sweet, light, flaky, digestible bread, biscuit, etc. With its use, the young mistress of the house may take a pardonable pride in the work of her hands.

— Only two of the political papers at Posen, in Prussia, have at this moment their editors out of prison.

— Asphalt is coming greatly into favor in Berlin as a street pavement. A very large quantity of it has been laid in the last two years.

— The internal revenue system requires a list of officials numbering 4,217.

— The killing costume of the current fashionable young man is styled the high mashar costume.

— There are said to be no fewer than seven different law codes in force in Bavaria, while a complete list of all the codes in force in Germany would make a long and interesting document.

— The main Exhibition Building for the New Orleans World's Fair is the largest building in this country, and next to the largest Exposition building ever constructed.

— The Canadian Pacific Railway has secured its advance of $22,500,000 from the Dominion Government.

— Baroness Burdette-Coutts is the President of the British Bee keepers' Association, and she recently presided at its annual meeting.

READ AND RUN.

— The Union Market National Bank of Watertown, Mass., whose cashier turned out a large defaulter and has not yet been found, resumed business on Monday last.

— Osman Digna refused to surrender to the British forces on demand, and Gen. Graham began his advance against the enemy at daybreak on Tuesday morning. His orders were not to proceed beyond Tamarieb.

— General Gordon sends word home that he will not be able to extricate the garrisons on the White and Blue Nile without the aid of troops.

— The French troops have advanced in Tonquin, in the direction of Bacninh.

— The Czar of Russia and the Emperor of Germany will hold an interview at Darmstadt in June next.

— There is great excitement in Legitimist circles in Paris over a reported plot to assassinate the Comte de Paris.

— One hundred and eighty-one persons died in Boston last week.

— The Democrats of Massachusetts are to hold a State convention on the 20th of April.

— At Alta, Utah, twelve persons were recently killed by a snowslide.

— Mr. Matthew Arnold sailed from New York for home last Saturday, in the Cunard steamer Servia.

— Earl Granville, the British foreign secretary, has replied to the Porte in regard to Turkish intervention in Egypt, that the latter has lost its opportunity; that the Egyptians are more opposed to the Turks than to the English; and the honor of British arms must be vindicated and order restored before all things else.

— As one of the results of the recent meeting of barbed-wire makers at St. Louis, it is reported that steps have been taken for the consolidation of all the barbed wire manufacturers of the country, under a single name; and in consequence an advance of one cent per pound on the price of wire as fixed by the meeting took place.

— Ex-Congressman William S. King of Minnesota has sued Philo Remington of Ilion, N. Y., for property valued at $2,000,000, which was deeded to the latter in trust for a loan of $300,000

— Freeman Willis, one of the proprietors of the Eagle Hold, in Lacona, N. H., was stabbed near the heart by one of three intoxicated young men whom he was getting from the house.

— Jay Gould has gone to Cuba for a month or two, which causes the recent bull movement in Wall street to come to a standstill. There are rumors that Gould has been quietly unloading his stocks during the last week.

— The Hon. Hiram Hobbs of South Berwick, Me., one of the oldest and most respected citizens, died on Sunday last at the age of 82 years.

— An effort is making to raise a fund of $10,000 to push the work of the Woman Suffrage Association in Massachusetts.

— Gov. Robinson said at the dinner of the New England Club last Saturday that he thought the State could go along in perfect safety, even if we don't have an election oftener than once in two years.

— In 1879, as came out in the recent debate in Congress on pleuro pneumonia, the butter and cheese products of this country amounted to more than 971 million pounds, with a total value of 185,650,000. These are figures that show the bearing of the "mock butter question" on the future of our foreign and domestic commerce.

— It is proposed in the bill just passed by the Senate to provide for the establishment of a system of courts in China, Japan, and other Eastern countries, so that American interests there will no longer be subject to the civil and criminal jurisdiction of incompetent consuls.

— The Bartholdi pedestal committee begin to think their efforts are a failure to find support adequate to the gigantic gift which France is about ready to put into their hands.

— In the opinion of the New York Chamber of Commerce, "the giving of free passes is unjust, demoralizing, and against public policy."

— The Mexican Central Railway was completed last Saturday, and it is called the new "conquest of Mexico." This railway traverses the median line of the republic for more than twelve hundred miles from its ancient capital northward.

— In Washington telegraph and telephone wires are to be removed from the roofs of the State, War, and Navy buildings, and placed underground.

— The return of the Lasker resolution by Prince Bismarck has led to the union of all the factions into which the opponents of his policy have hitherto been divided.

— The recent agitation on the subject of intercollegiate contests appears to have had a disheartening affect on the students of some of our colleges.

— The portable water tank quite satisfies the New York fire commissioners. The fire boat pumps can give the needed water supply at points over a mile distant. One of these tanks is to be placed in the dry goods district.

— Prof. Wood, the English naturalist, who has been lecturing here and elsewhere for some time past, has announced his purpose to settle permanently in Boston, and will bring his family over from England next fall.

— At Louisville, Ky., one day last week, there was paid $130,000 on whiskey which had already enjoyed three years of grace.

— In passing the recent Mexican War pension bill, the National House of Representatives distributes twelve dollars every month among those who followed the American flag in Mexico, forty years ago.

— says the New York Times: "We are the most numerous nation in the world; we are probably the richest; we have the most extensive sea coast; and yet our whole coast, including Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, New Orleans and San Francisco, is absolutely at the mercy of any naval power in Europe.

— Petitions are before the Massachusetts Legislature to make the city of Brockton a half-shire town of Plymouth County.

— The annual estimates of the city auditor of Boston call for a general increase of expenditure from that of last year.

— The common opinion is that winter No. 2, began with March 1.

— There are 381 electric lights now in use in the city of Boston, and they cost the city more than one fourth as much as the 9623 gas lamps, while they displace less than one seventh as many gas lamps.

— It is replied to the request of the officers of the Weather Bureau for larger appropriations, that unless they can give us a better quality of weather they ought not in reason to expect to be paid any more for it.

— It was in 1851 that Wendell Phillips made at Worcester the speech in the Woman's Rights Convention, in which he proclaimed the Convention to be "the first organized protest against the injustice which has brooded over the character and the destiny of one half of the human race."

— A Western paper speaks of "the low browed agnostic realism in art, in whose heart all the sanctuary fires of idealism have been put out."

— Japan operates about twelve thousand miles of telegraph wires.

— The Saturday Review, in discussing the methods of popular education in England, says that the result of the popular system in London is very unsatisfactory, if one considers how much money, time, and labor is expended on the schools.

— Clear glass globes are said to obstruct the light within them 10½ per cent., while ground glass obstructs it 29½ per cent.

MARRIAGES.

In this city, March 7th, by Rev. C. F. Johansson, Axel R. Bohlin der to Zila A. Johnson, both of Lynn.

In Lynn, March 5th, by Rev. Walter Barton, Mr. C. Walter Royce of Newton to Miss Louise S. Chase of Lynn.

In Waltham, March 9th, by Rev. E. J. Young, Fred J. Smiley to Nora F. Stanley, both of Waltham.

DEATHS.

In this city, March 8th, Rev. Dorus Clarke, D. D., in the 88th year of his age.

In Roxbury, 13th, Mrs. Sarah Parker, daughter of the late Hon. Ebenezer Seaver, 86 years 10 months 5 days.

In Colton, California, Feb. 26th, Mrs. Mary Stone Ontton, formerly of East Lexington, Mass., 53 years

In South Boston, March 7th, Mr. Benjamin Buck ler, 74 years 3 months.

In Malden, March 6th, John K. Southmayd, 64 years 12 days.

In Salem, March 5th, John Archer, 87 yrs. 8 mos.

In Newburyport, March 8th, Mrs. Lois Brown, 86 years.

In South Scituate, March 4th, George Butterworth, in the 84th year of his age.

In Portland, Oregon, Feb. 18th, of pneumonia, George Hall Piper, 55 years, a native of Newburyport, Mass.

In Dorchester, March 8th, John A. Allen, 57 years 10 months.

In Cuttendals, March 10th, Henry Amerige, 31 years.

In Hyannis, March 6th, Joshua Baker, 73 years 5 months.

In Fairhaven, March 7th, Jonathan Cowen, 72 years 9 months.

In Milton, March 8th, Rebecca Kinsman.

In Charlestown, March 7th, Harriet Symmes, 81 years.

In Cohasset, March 9th, Levi N. Bates, 71 years 11 months.

In Cambridge, Mass., March 9th, Mrs. Laura Page Dee, widow of the late Joseph M. Dee, 73 years.

In Harvard, March 9th, Daniel Harriwell, 84 years.

In Stowe, March 9th, Roxanna, wife of Ezra M. Miles, 59 years 6 months.

In Newbury, Vt., March 9th, in the 70th year of her age, Euphemia Fenno, widow of the late Frederic Tudor of Boston.

In Longwood, March 9th, Mrs. Mary A. Wakefield, formerly of Wells, Me., 91 years 4 months.

In Shirley, Feb. 22d Joanna Neal, 78 years 6 months, widow of the late William Neal.

In Pepperell, March 12th, Emeline L., widow of Luther Smith, 67 years.

In Lowell, Mass., March 6th, Mrs. Mary C., widow of G. F. Blanchard and daughter of the late Rev. Jacob Coggin of Tewksbury, 78 years.

AMERICAN BANDS OF MERCY.

Rev. Thomas Timmins has been engaged for six weeks past in organizing Bands of Mercy in Cincinnati. On addressing the Ohio State Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Children, every person present took the pledge as a member of the Cincinnati Band of Mercy. He narrated the story of his coming from England to the United States, and of his being persuaded to continue in the work here by Mr. Geo' T. Angell, Pres. Mass. Soc. Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; likewise of his having made members of Pre Hyacinthe, Mgr. Capel, Christine Nilsson, and many others. Gov. Anderson having been introduced, remarked that the American Band of Mercy was one of the noblest movements ever devised, and that the wonder was that it did not begin away back in the past of human history instead of in Boston in 1882. Mr. Timmins was well received by Archbishop Elder of Cincinnati, to whom he bore a letter of introduction from Vicar-General William Byrne of Boston. During his recent mission, he has visited Sunday schools, public and private schools, the orphan asylum, and other places, making from six to ten addresses daily. The young and old together entered enthusiastically into the work. If the growth of this new movement has been unprecedented in Boston, it was overwhelming in Cincinnati. Before he left that city, Mr. Timmins had organised 600 Bands numbering 37,000 members.

Many of the leading citizens are included in the membership, among the number being Archbishop Elder, Rabbi Wise, and Bishop Jaggar. The good results of the movement are to be constantly seen on every side, particularly on the part of younger members, who are on the lookout to prevent cruelty resulting from thoughtlessness, and eager to promote the influence of kind words and deeds at home, at school, and in the streets. The superintendent of the public schools, together with the principals and teachers of both the public and private schools, took an active part in advancing the movement thus auspiciously begun. They all believe that it will conduce greatly to the furtherance of their own special work and tend to make life more sacred, property more secure, manners more gentle, and the world around them better worth the living in. At the request of the Illinois Society, Mr. Timmins will commence a mission in Chicago about the middle of the present month. There are now more than 1300 Bands, with upwards of 112,000 members. Mr. Timmins has given his services to this field of labor, friends aiding in defraying his necessary expenses. He has received several letters from influential persons in Cincinnati, containing expressions of the warmest gratitude for his recent visit, and enfolding him the Prophet of Peace, Mercy, and Humanity, and assuring him that the world will be a better one for his having lived in it.

HOW TO TOP DRESS.—(ACTIVE AMMONIA.)

Those who live near a good market will find it profitable to top dress mowings. Yet a phosphate or any fertilizer where all the ammonia is in the form of animal matter should *never be applied to the surface*. A grass fertilizer should have a large percentage of ammonia in an active form, like sulphate of ammonia or nitrate of soda. The Stockbridge grass mixture contains nearly all of its ammonia in an active form and has been very successful. It is a *special manure for grass*, in which the *form of plant food* is of as much importance as the amount applied.

— Ex-Senator Thurman declines to allow his name used in connection with the presidential nomination, and refers to his public career as closed, saying that his thoughts are on other things.

☞ *E. C. Holmes & Co.*, 67 Clinton street, Boston, market gardeners and keepers of an agricultural warehouse and seed store, have issued a large octavo size *Seed Annual* for 1884, which is illustrated in very fine style. It makes a superior descriptive and illustrated Catalogue of vegetable, field, garden, grass and flower seeds, together with agricultural implements and fertilizers. This enterprising firm takes the greatest pains to select the choicest seeds from the best growers.

☞ We have received the following communication, which will be found interesting to market gardeners:—

SUNDERLAND, MASS., Dec. 6, 1883.

We have used Bradley's Superphosphate for the last three years in growing market produce, and have been led to esteem it more and more each year; in fact, would not expect to succeed without it. We have also used it side by side with other fertilizers with marked results in its favor. We intend in future to use no other.

GEO. L. BATCHELDER & SON.

— The new town set off from Sandwich, Mass., has been named in honor of Johnathan Bourne, a name long and well known on the Cape.

FOG SIGNALS.

Editor N. Y. Evening Telegram:

I read with great interest your local item a few days since, respecting the precautions taken by the Stonington line during the presence of perfect fogs. The bonds now in progress for a bill is now before Congress looking to the establishment of an international code of signals to be used by mariners at sea in the night time and during fogs. The following are some of the proposed signals: The same plan as our fire alarm or telegraph, and designate the course by which a vessel is being steered, thus absolutely preventing collisions.

The International Signal Company, of Boston, has been organized, with a view of placing these machines upon their vessels, as soon as the bill passes Congress. All other nations have approved of the code of this company, and action by our Congress only remains to complete the business and make the same entirely international.

Stock in this company can be obtained at the nominal price of $100 per share, and if favorable action is taken at Washington it must prove a valuable investment for capitalists. Should any of our readers desire to investigate the merits of this humane and valuable invention, you are at liberty to give them my address. SIGNAL.

Boston, March 4, 1885.

— The northern and southern divisions of the Mexican Central Railroad are within five miles of one other.

☞ In Johnstown, N. Y., a manufacturing town of 16,000 inhabitants, the license board have refused to grant licenses since May 1882, and the Law and Order Society report as follows: From May 1882 to Jan. 1883 eight months, 2,940 gal. less of beer were sold than during the same period of the year before under license. The sales of distilled liquors in the same period were: under license, 10200 gal, No license, 1160 gal, During the same time the arrests for drunkenness were: under license, 17, No license, 3. The town criminal expenses were: under license, $2475.00. No License, $487.00. Number of paces where liquor was openly sold: under license, 32, No License, none.—[National Temperance Advocate.

— The daughters of the post Longfellow are the recipients of many very flattering attentions from the English nobility, in London.

COMMERCIAL FERTILISERS.—Commercial Fertilisers have come into such general use among our farmers, that arguments in their favor are hardly necessary. Nearly all farmers use some fertilizer now on their farms, even if they have barn-yard manure in abundance. There are now many kinds in the market, but among our best farmers, the preference seems to be decidedly in favor of Bradley's Superphosphate, which they say is always uniform in quality and condition, and hence always reliable.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., Nov. 15, 1883.

I have used Bradley's Phosphate about twenty-three years, also many other kinds of fertilizers. I find its standard kept up during all these years. For corn, potatoes, onions, cabbages, oats, and all crops, I must say Bradley's is far the best.

Z. F. CHADWICK.

☞ *H. J. Baker and Co.*, 215 Pearl street, New York, importers, manufacturers and dealers, present to the public for their season of 1884, *Facts for Farmers* regarding the use and results of Fertilizers, in convenient pamphlet form.

☞ All that can be supplied towards making the natural hair beautiful and abundant is contained in Ayer's Hair Vigor. It keeps the scalp free from dandruff, prevents the hair from becoming dry and harsh, and makes it flexible and glossy. It stimulates the roots to healthy action, and promotes a healthy, vigorous growth.

— Storms and floods are reported in California, with interruption of railroad communication.

☞ Before going West send to Z. B. Clarke, Benson, Minn., for book (sent free to anybody) on Why Mixed Farming and Dairying Pay in Minnesota."

FOR THROAT DISEASES AND COUGHS.—BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES, like all *really good things*, are frequently imitated. *The genuine are sold only in boxes.*

— Dr. Thayer anticipates little more trouble from the hoof and mouth disease in imported cattle, in this State.

☞ Physicians have long prescribed Dr. Graves' Heart Regulator for Heart Disease, why —because it is a sterling preparation for a peculiar disease, and 30 years use warrants it. $1 per bottle.

mch15-2t

— A railroad is now in operation over the Andes. The first train from Buenos Ayres, on the eastern side of the continent of South America, arrived at a town in Chili on the 15th of February.

EPILEPSY ENTIRELY CURED.

Prof. Irving B. Smith, of Pike, N. Y., makes the following statement. "*Samaritan Nervine* has entirely cured me of epileptic fits."

Massachusetts Horticultural Society

—At the meeting for discussion to be held Saturday, March 15, the subject will be "The Æsthetics of Horticulture." The meetings will be held at the Library Room, Horticultural Hall, Tremont Street, Boston, at 11 o'clock. All interested are freely and cordially invited to attend.

☞ *The Dog*; Containing Some Hints on Breeding; together with a description of the diseases common to dogs, and how they can be cured, by Dr. Al Watts, is a little manual on a subject of interest to a great many people, to whom the larger and more elaborate works of Youatt and Stonehenge are not accessible. The well known author has attempted only to distribute among dog owners some of the results of his experience with dogs, gathered within the past twenty years, in regard to their treatment both in health and disease.

☞ T. B. Everett & Co., manufacturers of and dealers in agricultural implements, 43 South Market street, Boston, have sent out their Illustrated Catalogue and Price List for 1884, which is a genuine beauty. The Catalogue has been enlarged, and gives a full description of implements. Believing that the best of these are really the cheapest, they offer none but such as they have full confidence in themselves.

— Ex-Governor Hubbard of Connecticut, recently deceased, left an estate valued at a quarter of a million dollars.

— The editors of most of the great London Dailies are reported to be in the fifties in point of age.

☞ For three years Mr. R. C. Wright, of Garson, N. C., had been an intense sufferer from Rheumatism. His friend, J. A. Warick, of Petersburg, Va., writes: "Before the first bottle of ATHLOPHOROS was finished he was able to walk, and now goes about all over his farm" In this case, which the friends of Mr. Wright regarded as desperate, a test was made of ATHLOPHOROS. It surprised friend and patient by its prompt and thorough action on the blood and diseased parts, and won the emphatic opinion that it was truly a specific for Rheumatism.

— Mount Everett, hitherto regarded as the monarch of the Hymalayan chain, is in danger of dethronement. Two peaks have recently been seen to the northwest of Mt. Everett, which are believed to be considerably higher.

☞ VEGETINE is the great health restorer—composed exclusively of barks, roots and herbs. It is very pleasant to take; every child likes it.

— Henry Irving's present dramatic trip to this country has netted him $200,000. He and Miss Terry were dined by the President at the close of their engagement in Washington, last Saturday.

☞ Thousands of women have been restored to perfect health by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

— Since the introduction of two-cent letter postage, there has been an unexpected reduction in the number of postal cards issued. For the past five years, the average annual increase has been 14 per cent.

Domestic Markets

BOSTON PRODUCE MARKET.

Wholesale Prices

Beans.—Are in good supply for the demand and it is difficult to get over $2 60 for large lots of large hand-picked pea or mediums, and $2 90 is a full price for New York small hand-

Indulgence and Excesses.

hether over eating or drinking are made
less by using Hop Bitters freely, giving
ant appetite and enjoyment by using them
e and removing all dullness, pains and dis-
afterwards, leaving the head clear, nerves
y, and all the feelings buoyant, elastic and
happy than before. The pleasing effects
Christian or sumptuous dinner continuing
afterwards.

Eminent Testimony.

N. Y. Witness, Aug. 15, 1880.

find that in addition to the *pure* spirits
lined in their composition, they contain the
cts of hops and other well known and
y approved medicinal roots, leaves and
ures in quantities sufficient to render the
e what the makers claim it to be, to wit, a
dicinal preparation and not a beverage—suit-
nasic to be used except as a medicine.
From a careful analysis of their formula—
was attested under oath—I find that in
wing-glassfull of Hop Bitters, the active
icinal properties aside from the distilled
s are equal to a full dose for an adult,
d revenue tax as a medicinal bitter."
GREEN B. RAUM, U. S. Com. In. Rev.

Hardened Liver.

e years ago I broke down with kidney and
complaint and rheumatism. Since then I
been unable to be about at all. My liver
me hard like wood; my limbs were puffed
d filled with water. All the best physi-
agreed that nothing could cure me. I re-
d to try Hop Bitters; I have used seven
s; the badness has all gone from my liver,
welling from my limbs, and it has worked
acle in my case; otherwise I would have
now in my grave.
J. W. MORRY, Buffalo, Oct. 1, '81.

Poverty and Suffering.

was dragged down with debt, poverty and
ng for years, caused by a sick family and
bills for doctoring. I was completely dis-
ged, until one year ago, by the advice of
astor, I commenced using Hop Bitters.
e one month we were all well, and none of
ve seen a sick day since, and I want to say
poor men, you can keep your families well
with Hop Bitters for less than one doctor's
ill cost, I know it."
A WORKINGMAN.

EXPOSITION OF
R. SHERMAN'S
UPTURE CURE.

A. SHERMAN—Dear Sir:
xperience with your treatment is very grati-
ince I called on you about eight months ago,
g with a right side scrotal rupture. I took
usses previously, and from the use of them
increased pain. From the day you adjusted
ppliance to my case I have felt the greatest
and through the application of your Curative
and my improvement has been such as to
me to pursue my business—which is both se
d laborious—without inconvenience; and
I still wear your appliance, it is chiefly be
nt to be certain of a cure before leaving it
ity.
omfort I have derived from your treatment,
as of the cure which I feel has been effected,
and for a hundredfold for the outlay. This
sult prompts me to recommend your treat-
the afflicted, believing that all will benefit
it has me if they adhere to your instruc-
F. W. FLANDERS.
nce, Oct. 14, 1883.

RUPTURE
and cured without operation, interference
or the injury trusses inflict. Photographs
ses before and after cure can be seen at Dr
ERMAN'S Office of the Rupture Cure
eet. Only days of consultation, Wednesday
and Friday of each week. Dr. S.'s book
orem. ms of phy icians, clergymen mer-
rmers and others who have been cured by
, is mailed for 15 cents. Beware of de-
to tragic ownary. Principal Office, 151
, New York. Days of consultation, Mon-
dy and Saturday of each week.

ble Pacific Guano.
al Sales Over 50,000 Tons.
This high grade Fer-
tilizer produces crops
of superior quality and
quantity. It is not a
stimulant, but a plant
food. The high stand-
ard for which it has
been noted for
TWENTY
YEARS
past will be strictly
maintained.
For pamphlets, ad-
dress
GLIDDEN & CURTIS.
al Selling Agents, Boston, Mass.
Perfect Side Hill Plow
ast in the Improved Sorts American Plow,
and this to say out to want of a Side Hill
f in the best Plow to be obtained it can
ad free of any expense. Don't fail to ex-
ine plow at our store, where a large number
gest testimonials ever received for any
offering special inducements, and very low
the large stock of Farming Tools recently
Whittemore Bros., as we wish to close
to make room for new goods.
ole agents in Boston for the sale of
new Illustrated Seed Catalogue.
THOMPSON & CO.
ton St., and
80 and 82 So. Market St.

re of Misrepresentations.
thorized parties are representing them-
to be my Agents in Boston. I hereby
C. H. THOMPSON & CO., 71
eet, are my sole agents in Boston, for the
Vegetable Seeds—and that *C. E. Holmes*
not my agents
JAMES J. H. GREGORY.
ted, 1st March, 1884. mh15-1t

Wanted.
ETHY, energetic Woman as working
keeper, at the Industrial School.
person, or address
R. B. RISK,
Lawrence, Mass.

SUGAR MILLS
Evaporators, Steel Shoes, for Hand,
Animal, Steam and Water Power.
The Best. The Cheapest
Send for Circulars, Catalogues and
Prices, and Facts, BEFORE
CASE BALLEW, Agent,
Buffalo, N. Y.

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FOR THE CURE OF
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NEWS SUMMARY.

Fifty three rams were shipped from Middlebury, Vt., to Texas on Thursday.

A monster trout weighing thirty pounds was recently captured in Ebeome Lake, Me.

The steamship Servia, from New York to Liverpool, took $4,600,000 in gold, last Saturday.

The heaviest snow storm of the winter in Vermont occurred on Friday night and Saturday.

Rev. H. A. Jones of Hampden was shot through the hand the other day by a pistol which he was cleaning.

The annual fair of the upper Coos and Essex, N. H., Agricultural Society will be held September 24 and 25.

Mrs. William Moore of Newburyport was badly burned by the explosion of an oyster can in which she was making chocolate. It is feared she will lose her eyesight.

Charles Richards, 9 years of age, residing at Pawtucket, R. I., was run over by a train on the Boston and Providence Railroad on Saturday afternoon and instantly killed.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lewis and her daughter Jessie, aged 16, were found dead in bed at their home in New Haven, Conn., on Saturday evening, having been suffocated by gas.

An apartment house in New York was robbed of about $600 worth of goods Sunday evening by a negro, who nearly murdered a young woman left in charge of the place.

On Friday a young son of Orrin F. James of Thornton, N. H., fell from a scaffold, striking on a pitchfork and running a tine into his thigh about six inches. His recovery is doubtful.

Potatoes are almost a drug in the market at Lancaster, N. H., selling there at 20 and 25 cents a bushel. Last fall they could have been sold at prices ranging from 25 to 35 cents a bushel.

A two story frame building in Portland, Conn., owned and occupied by E. I. Bell as a flouring mill and storehouse, burned this morning. Loss, $15,000; insured. Supposed incendiary.

A young man at Johnstown, Pa., committed suicide by means of an electric shock. He held a piece of iron rod in his hand, with which he touched an electric light wire. Death was instantaneous.

Nelson Joy, Postmaster at Elm Grove, Coleraine, while at work in his saw mill last week, cut his hand badly by the saw. The index finger was cut off and the two next to it were nearly severed and the thumb was split open.

Joseph Marshall of Seabrook was found near the Eastern Railroad track, a mile from the station, Friday. His head and groin were badly cut by a passing train, his feet were frozen and a leg amputated. He will probably die.

Monday night, Mrs. Woodward Kirkloff of Upper Pottsgrove, Montgomery county, who was crazed with malarial fever, deliberately set her clothing on fire. She fought those who tried to extinguish the flames and was slowly burned to death.

A large barn belonging to Thaddeus Richardson, about a mile from Stoneham Centre, was burned Sunday with ten tons of hay, 22 cows, 1 horse, 15 hogs, a lot of harnesses, farming tools and wagons. The loss is about $3500.

While David Ross, an employe of the Agawam Paper Company, was descending on the elevator at Agawam Saturday morning it broke and he fell about 30 feet, badly cutting him about the head, and it is feared he is seriously internally injured.

Mr. Horace Wood found a two months old baby on the railroad track between Hopkinton and Milford on Friday. It was wrapped up in a shawl and in a healthy condition. It was probably placed there to be killed by the morning train from Milford.

Nine plate glass windows in the dry goods store of Messrs. Ridley & Son, in Grand st., New York, which were valued at $3000, were smashed early on Saturday morning in a very mysterious manner. Ridley & Son blame the Early Closing Association for the work.

A cloud burst near Caliente, Cal., at 11.30 o'clock on Friday night, covered in an instant the track of the Southern Pacific Railroad for a distance of several hundred feet with two feet of sand and water. Buildings near were covered to a depth of 18 inches.

George H. Brigham of Worcester is a hero who deserves mention. He is a sailor, and on last Friday morning one of his shipmates fell overboard. Brigham leaped from the yardarm, a distance of thirty three feet, and, swimming in a heavy sea, rescued him, both being nearly dead from exaustion when picked up.

Timothy Moore, 13 years old, of 56 Billerica street, Boston, broke through the ice off the New England Glass Company's wharf East Cambridge, Sunday afternoon, and was drowned. The body was recovered later in the day and taken in charge by Undertaker Lockhart. Two companions of the boy also fell into the water, but succeeded in getting out.

While Silas C. Parkhill of Cornwall, Vt., was felling a tree in a swamp it suddenly swayed around, striking another tree close by. One of the splinters flew, hitting him in the face just below the eye, panetrating the flesh and removing the eye. A surgeon succeeded in removing the splinter, which was about the size of his little finger, and replaced the eye.

The United States Veterinary Surgeon at Fort Leavenworth, Dr. Holcomb, detailed to investigate the cattle disease in Woodson county, reports the foot and mouth disease in a severe form, and not the dreaded anthrax or black leg, as at first supposed, which is much more fatal, killing 80 per cent. He did not expect to find the foot and mouth disease, but was prepared to find anthrax.

Harry Hutchins of Rumford, Me., had a narrow escape from death a few days ago. While chopping wood in the woods he climbed up a tree which had been lodged, when he slipped and fell, striking his neck on a pointed stake in the sled, which passed into his neck behind his ear and up through the flesh, making a severe wound. The point of the stake just missed the jugular vein.

The arrangements for the Greely relief expedition are progressing satisfactorily, and it is now expected that both the Bear and the Thetis will be ready to sail for the Arctic seas by the first of May next, and that the supply ship Alert will be ready to sail a few weeks later. A quantity of gun cotton, about 3000 pounds, has been ordered from the Torpedo station at Newport, for use on the expedition in breaking through the ice, if found necessary. About 75 men have already been accepted to man the vessels.

A peculiar accident happened to George Douglas, a boy about 12 years old, in Pittsfield on Saturday, which came near resulting fatally. He was standing in front of O. P. Atwood's drugstore looking into the window when his feet slipped and he fell upon a glass show case standing on the sidewalk. His chin struck the glass of the case with such force that it broke the glass, and the broken glass cut his throat terribly. The gash was about three inches long, and entirely severed the flesh from the throat, leaving the windpipe and jugular vein exposed, but not injured.

—They say of M. de Lesseps that he will never die, he is possessed of such wonderful vitality. And his physique and habits are said to almost warrant this assertion. Though seventy-eight years old, he undertakes even the longest journeys with the greatest ease. He can sleep twenty-four hours at a stretch, and then go for five or six nights without sleep. He sleeps at will, and when he pleases. On a recent voyage from Marseilles to Alexandria he slept 107 hours out of 130. He possesses remarkable recuperative force. He has until recently used cold water externally with freedom, and devotes himself passionately to horsemanship.

—Oscar Wilde, in his recent lecture in London, occupied nearly the whole of his time in running down the people of this country, whom he styled the noisiest race in the world, saying they were always in a hurry, the national occupation being train-catching, which absorbed the most of a man's life. In regard to hotels, cars, offices, and stores, he said every thing is twice as large as it need be, or as was useful or convenient, and that the basis of the whole thing was pretension without reality.

—In his last Sunday evening lecture at the Arlington street church, in Boston, Rev. Brooke Herford said—"The truth is, that the principles of business are not so complicated but what any man with a head on his shoulders may understand a good deal about them; and as for the practices of business,—well, of course they are curiously varied, but yet any candid man, looking about him with his eyes and ears open, not in a fault-finding spirit but with a few great rules of right and wrong, may be able to tell whether they are as they should be, or whether they are as they shouldn't be."

☞ The renowned Dr. Clendenning, says one-third of all his dissections showed signs of Heart Disease; if you have it in any form, use Dr. Graves' Heart Regulator, $1 per bottle at druggists. mch15-2t

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What Ayer's Cherry Pectoral does:—

It prevents the growth, to serious illness, of a dangerous class of diseases that begin as mere trivial ailments, and are too apt to be neglected as such.

It alleviates even the most desperate cases of pulmonary diseases, and affords to the patient a last and the only chance for restoration to health.

It breaks up a cold, and stops a cough more speedily, certainly, and thoroughly than any other medicine.

It spares mothers much painful anxiety about their children, and saves the little ones' lives.

It cures all lung and throat diseases that can be reached by human aid.

How Ayer's Cherry Pectoral Does Such Good.

It expels the mucus from the throat and the air passages of the head, and cleanses the mucous membrane.

It allays inflammation, puts a stop to tickling in the throat and coughing, and enables the patient to rest.

It heals sore throat, reduces the swollen tonsils, and restores natural tone to the affected vocal cords.

It soothes to natural and refreshing slumber, during which Nature regains strength to combat disease.

It clears out and heals diseased air cells in the lungs, and helps Nature to repair the waste made by the corrosion of pulmonary disease.

It puts a stop to the cankerous decay of Catarrh.

Why Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is so Perfect a Medicine.

Because it is a scientifically ordered compound, of great potency, the product of years of study, observation, and experience in the treatment of throat and lung diseases.

Because it is prepared from the purest forms of the drugs employed in it, chemically combined by a process of such perfection and accuracy as would be unattainable, even by the most skillful pharmacist, dealing with small quantities.

Because it is not only the most effective medicine for the uses to which it is designed, but, owing to the enormous quantities in which it is made, is sold at so low a price that it is placed within the reach of every household.

Because it is an active curative agent, that must be taken by drops, as prescribed in the directions accompanying each bottle, and not a mere palliative syrup that may be swallowed by mouthfuls.

Where Ayer's Cherry Pectoral Stands Before the World.

It is popularly known to be a medicine that has cured laryngeal, bronchial, and pulmonary affections where all others had failed.

It is a favorite household remedy to-day with people whose lives were saved by it, when they were young, a generation ago.

It has held the first-place in popular estimation for nearly half a century in this country, and is more and more highly appreciated, year after year, both at home and abroad.

It evokes daily, from all over the world, expressions of gratitude for lives saved by its use.

It is everywhere recommended by reputable druggists, who know, from conversations with their patrons, and from their own experience, how almost magical are its effects for good.

It is regularly prescribed by many physicians of the best standing, and is recommended by Professors of Medical Colleges, to their students, as invaluable for all diseases of the throat and lungs.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral,

PREPARED BY
Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., [Analytical Chemists] Lowell, Mass.
Sold by all Druggists: Price $1, six bottles for $5.

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These manures are prepared largely from chemicals, and although the prices have been reduced **$5 per ton**, on the leading brands, yet the Standard will be fully maintained, for we are not only under bonds to Prof. Stockbridge to keep up the quality, but we also have too much at stake to do otherwise. These Special Manures not only supply certain quantities of plant food, but also *those forms of plant food best adapted to each crop, or class of crops*; and oftentimes the form of plant food has more influence upon the *yield* and *quality* than the amount applied. Every farmer is aware of this, for he knows that while all manures are useful, yet the manure of the horse, cow and hog, and that of fowls, have all their special uses, and are more profitably applied to some crops than to others. So Nitrate of Soda, Sulphate and Muriate of Potash, Phosphate of Lime, etc., are all useful under varying circumstances. The Stockbridge Manures are the only ones which recognize the principle, that the *form of plant food* is of as much importance as the quantity; and this is one of the main reasons why they are so successful. For pamphlets mailed free, ask our Local Agent, or send to

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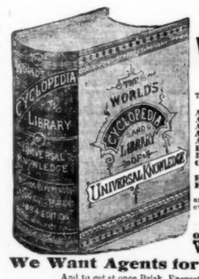

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SAVES LABOR, TIME and SOAP AMAZINGLY, and gives universal satisfaction. No family, rich or poor should be without it. Sold by all Grocers. BEWARE of imitations well designed to sell on the merits of PEARLINE and ONLY SAFE labor-saving compound, and always bears the above symbol, and name of
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Will spread any and all kinds of manure found on the farm, in all conditions, whether wet, dry, heavy, light or strawy, including ashes.

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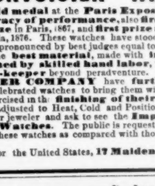

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The Poet's Corner.

TO THE MARCH FLOWERS.

BY ALICE CARY.

Keep your muddy covers close, flowers,
Nor dare to open your eyes,
For all this month your lover, the Sun,
Will only tell you lies.

He will only tell you lies, flowers,
Pretty and undesigned,
For through this rough and cloudy month
He never knows his mind.

The Daffodil may look at him
With her bright and angry eyes,
But Pinks that come with their hearts in their mouths
Must wait for warmer skies.

O Daisies, stay in your grassy house,
Ye poor deluded things;
And keep your little white fingers shut
Away from his golden rings.

Ye Meadow-Lilies, leopard-like,
Under the mould so deep,
Crouch close, and keep your spotted cubs
For a month yet fast asleep.

Trust not, ye modest Violets,
His promises to you,
Nor dare upon his fickle smile
To broaden your kerchiefs blue.

Ye little twinkling Marigolds,
'Tis wise sometimes to doubt,
And though the winds should shake his moans
To music, look not out.

'Tis a rough and churlish mouth, flowers;
So heed ye my advice,
Else you will wake to go to sleep
With cheeks as cold as ice.

—[The Ladies' Floral Cabinet.

Ladies' Department.

Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.

FLINT HILL FARM;

—OR—

WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY.

BY A. B. BERRY,

Author of Wolf Ledge or Cruso Hut, &c., &c.

(Chapter II—Continued.)

This work occupied me the most of a week, and when done I confess I stood and contemplated it with a good deal of satisfaction. It was my first attempt at architecture, and as I had cleared the way, the trees and shrubs only just where was the space occupied by the cabin and a few feet beyond, while immediately around were a few tall and slender birches, a few scrub oaks, young hickory, barberry bushes and other shrubs; my dwelling had an attraction setting with a background of woods some thirty rods to the rear.

It will be seen that the floor of my cabin or house was the solid earth. I confess I had some doubts about how to fix this. I knew that after a little time the soil would get trod into dust, and it would be worse than useless to think of covering it with any old carpet or other thing in that condition. I finally concluded to remove the top soil which was nearly a foot deep and replace it with a gravelly sand which cropped out on one side of the brook. This would be dry and without dust, but loose and unpleasant. I thought first of laying a course of brick over this, but thought it would be expensive and troublesome, as I should have to haul the bricks from quite a distance. I finally concluded to try cement, such as cisterns are made of. I gathered the stones larger and smaller to the top of the gravel, making them three or four inches deep, then screening the sand till I had sufficient for the mortar; I spread this and mixed it with the stones on the floor and smoothed the surface, for I had abundance and to spare from a barrel of cement, and when this was dry it was firm and solid as marble though not, I admit as smooth.

I think I have not mentioned the time precisely when I began operations. It was a little after the first week in April, and fortunately the weather was pleasant and rather mild.

A little below my house on the side of the brook was what had been a field, and there was two or three acres very level and handsome on which there were no trees and only a few shrubs and bushes which were easily removed. I had something over two acres of this ploughed up by another neighbor, Mr. James Swain, who evidently regarded me as partially if not hopelessly a lunatic. He seemed to have some fears lest he should not get his pay for his team and himself and boy, as he stated to me at the end of the first day's work what his bill was for that day. I could have paid him just the sum at once, but to quiet his fears for future operations, I took a small roll of tens and twenties (greenbacks) from my pocket and offered him one of the former, which almost took away his breath. I finally recollected I had a little money in another pocket and paid him, though by this time he was reluctant to take the money till he had finished the work.

CHAPTER III.

Calves, colts, or lambs let loose after long confinement could not be friskier or happier than our children were, when in the first week in May they were turned loose upon our solitary farm. The oldest a daughter,—whose name was Ethel, was nine years old; the next Bessie, seven. The next, our oldest boy, James, after his grandfather Crane, was six; the next a boy, Arthur, four and the baby not quite three, a little girl Laura, after her mother.

It was a warm pleasant day for the season, and the children had been running and hallooing for an hour or two, when we, the mother and I, who was busy setting our house in order, heard a great outcry, and hastened to the door just in season to see James and the girls pull Arthur out of the brook west from top to toe. He had slipped in from the bank, and though the water in no place was deep, he had fallen his whole length in, and though at first scared; when he found himself safe he shouted and skipped about and shook the water from his dripping hair and clothes. We got him into the house by the fire and changed his clothes, and he sallied forth again in quest of other adventures, though he was pretty sure to keep clear of the brook.

Before leaving the city we disposed to one another such of our furniture and articles as we did not need in our primitive style of housekeeping, and when we had converted all we could spare to cash, we found that including that paid down for the farm amounted to little rising eight hundred dollars. Our cooking stove and cheapest and plainest furniture we took to the cabin, which I was happy to find was highly commended by my wife. She said as she came in sight of it, 'Why, what a pretty house you have made. It looks like a picture,' and when we had got our things arranged and a coarse carpet we had on the city dining-room put down on the main room, she declared it to be just splendid.

Before putting the carpet down I had spread a thin layer of cut straw on the cement and over this two layers of coarse building paper. I did the same in the two smaller rooms which were sleeping rooms for the children. My wife and I had our bed set up in the living room, and as we had a kitchen outside, this was not objectionable. The baby slept in a crib near us. All the inside of the cabin, I mean the walls and two feet on the inside of the roof I covered by tacking on smoothly, coarse building paper, and this we subsequently covered with cheap but pretty wall paper. We had an air-tight wood stove which I had bought cheap at a second-hand price, and this we sat up to warm the living room cool days and evenings. For a chimney, I bought at a foundry in the city a six-inch cast iron water pipe ten feet long, which was properly secured about four feet from the floor near the center of the room between the door entering the children's sleeping rooms, so that it came out at the peak of the roof, and was there prevented from allowing the water from rain or snow to drip down by being packed with asbestos felting; the pipe from the stove ran up into the water pipe chimney, which extended about two feet above the peak of the roof.

I think the reader will get something of an idea of our home and its surroundings. The whole cost of the house, including the windows which I bought new—(the doors were of matched and planed, pine, narrow boards I made myself, and my wife said they did not look bad, and were as serviceable as more expensive ones) was less than seventy-five dollars.

After getting fairly settled into our new home, it was natural we should begin to think of our neighbors. I had already made the acquaintance of the male part of several of the families and a few of the female portion, who had come into Mr. Trafton's while I was there. It was clear enough that our operations had been thoroughly canvassed by the neighborhood. Mrs. Trafton was a very pleasant ladylike and attractive woman. Their children were mostly grown up, there were three of them, a daughter and two sons. The daughter and eldest son were married. The youngest son lived still with his father. Mrs. Swain was a plain, practical woman, quiet and shrewd, a good housekeeper, but not remarkably charitable either in goods or spirit. The wealthiest man in the neighborhood was Ezekiel Cummings. A farmer of the real old stamp, opposed to all change or new ideas in farming. He was a shrewd, close, calculating and prudent to the borders of being miserly. Nobody ever thought of approaching him for any charitable aid. He had 'always taken care of himself and everybody else could if they would, if they didn't that was their lookout, not his.' He had inherited a rather hard, rough farm, but by dint of constant effort and struggle, he had succeeded while young in laying by in the bank a hundred dollars, and from that day to his sixtieth year—his age when I moved into the neighborhood, he had never, day or night, relaxed in his efforts to add other hundreds to his gain, till he was the wonder of the neighborhood for his wealth. This made him powerful, and where he could exercise it was even more arbitrary. His influence in the community was bad. He opposed every kind of improvement, and actually laughed his neighbors out of almost any improved idea of farming. He did his mowing with the old-fashioned scythe and ploughed with the old wooden plough. He would not even have a cooking-stove in his house. The old open fire-place with the crane hung with hooks, long and short, still held its place in his house. He rode to the village in an old round-shouldered, heavy lumbering chaise, which had every appearance of having been built exactly after the model of the 'Deacon's one-hoss shay.' Old Jew Cummings, as he had come to be called from his penurious and grasping habits, had two children by a second wife—having none by the first—a son and daughter, the son was about fifteen and the daughter five.

These were all the near neighbors. Mr. Kent, Mr. Richards, Mr. Homer and a few others, lived in the same school district, but pretty widely scattered. The road or highway ran along by our farm near the pond, and was twenty or thirty rods from the house, which in summer time was quite hidden from view to passers by, by the foliage of the trees. The school-house was half a mile distant, in full view from our house, as it was half way up the side of the hill over which the road passed. It was a little old barren building, built years before, with the hardest kind of seats and most unattractive in all its features and surroundings. Several attempts had been made to have a new house, but 'Old Jew Cummings' made such persistent opposition, that nothing could be done without a neighborhood fuss, so the thing was endured from year to year and seemed likely to from generation of schoolars to generation, as long as the old miser lived.

CHAPTER IV.

I must now give some account of my farming. The first live stock I bought beside my horse was poultry, or as this means mostly chickens or hens, when fit for the spit or pot, I will say hens and chickens. I had found that Mrs. Swain took great pride in her success with fowls of almost every domestic variety, so I had bargained with her to set for me half a dozen hens and three dozen turkeys eggs under hens or turkeys. I was to take the chickens and young turkeys as soon as they were hatched, or rather the day or two after, and before the hen or turkey came off the nest with them. The hens that hatched the chickens were to be reset as soon as the first brood came off, and these chicks when hatched I was to have also. Mrs. Swain was opposed to selling me the hens with their broods from some superstitious fear of 'selling her luck' in poultry raising. She seemed pretty sure that my luck with young chickens without the mother hens, would be a hard one. But though I had been many years in a machine shop, I had always felt a lingering interest in farming and farm products, and had kept this interest alive by taking every year one or two agricultural papers and reading carefully everything in them.

As soon as my chickens and turkeys were hatched I took them home and put them into boxes (raisin boxes mostly) about twenty or twenty-four in a box, and kept them in the warm kitchen most of the time for a few days, covered with a flannel cloth, feeding them first on stale bread crumbs. The bottoms of the boxes were covered with sand and gravel. After a few days I fed them with scalded corn meal with crusts of bread mashed up in it and sprinkled pretty well with pepper from the castor pepper box.

I say *I* did this, but really it was little chance I had to do anything for them. There were plenty of little hands to feed them and give them milk to drink. Such a time as there was when I brought the first mess of little fluffy peepers into the house. Every pair of hands must handle and fondle them, and the eyes never tired of watching them, warming their blanket and listening to their little snoozy pipings as they felt themselves comfortable and happy with full crops and the warm blanket lying softly over them. When they were a few days old handfulls of fresh tender grass was gathered and cut up fine with the shears and sprinkled into their boxes, which they soon learned to peep earnestly for when not abundantly supplied. The sand in the bottom of the boxes I removed every day or two and replaced with new mixed with wood ashes, and it was amusing to see how early they would begin to scratch and roll and flutter themselves in the sand and ashes.

There was no trouble at all with the chickens, but I found more in succesafully managing the young turkeys. They were now restless and uneasy; they required more space and for a time more careful treatment. I thought for a time I had a bad job on my hands, but I succeeded at last in deceiving them into the belief that they were out in some field or pasture, though rather narrow in extent, being careful that they did not get chilled, and supplying them with a variety of food, vegetable and animal.

My next purchase was a cow and a calf, the latter but a few days old. The season was tolerably forward, and the grass in one part of my lot quite well up. This also occasioned an excitement in the household. The calf became a great pet, and as in time it might become a milker like the mother, and was very handsome, I decided to "raise it," to the great delight of the boys especially.

Now we had milk enough, and a great luxury it was, too. I hardly know which grew the fastest and plumpest, the calf, the chickens or the children; all seemed to thrive upon it. I had no barn or stable into which to put the cow for cold nights or storm, but I improvised a temporary shelter for both cow and calf. I could not then stop to build for them. Planting time was already on hand. I had, as I have said, had my ground ploughed, and I had bought a light harrow and harrowed it myself with my horse. The soil was a light loam, and as the sod was thin and ploughed pretty deep it easily worked down fine. For manure I trusted almost wholly to commercial fertilizers. I noticed that some of my neighbors dumped their leached ashes after making soap in some out of the way place, where the bones, hair, bristles, &c., from butchering were also thrown. These I bought for a trifle, and together with the wood ashes I bought, as all the neighborhood burned wood, and the hen manure I succeeded in getting, which was looked upon as mere nuisance, I had several wagon loads, and this I mixed with a liberal quantity of ground plaster, loam, and ground bone, and the whole with the superphosphate and commercial guano, and with this did my planting. Potatoes I planted early in May and corn the last week in May. I planted about half an acre of potatoes, and the rest of the piece I planted to corn, which was something over an acre and a half. Near my house, between that and the brook, was a narrow strip of level land three or four rods wide, and a dozen or twenty rods long. This I had ploughed and fertilized broadcast, and harrowed and fertilized and harrowed again. This was our garden, vegetable, fruit and flower. I had bought a dozen young and thrifty apple trees, half a dozen pear trees and a dozen peach trees. None of these were set in the garden proper, but around it; the apple trees at one end the pear trees some near and some further from the house, and the peach trees between the house and garden.

The first week in June I had finished planting, and so had my neighbors, and as there was a little breathing time before hoeing I engaged my neighbor Swain to plough up another piece for me. This had been last cropped evidently with corn, and left as the corn had grown. Though there were birches here and there growing over it, which had evidently started up since the corn was taken off, that were now fifteen or twenty feet high, the rows of corn as it had been well 'hilled up' were as distinct as when left fifteen or twenty years before. There was but about half an acre that had been thus cropped, but I managed by removing the stones and digging up the trees to get about two acres more ploughed. This I fertilized and harrowed and worked down very much better than I anticipated, then I fertilized again and then went over it again with the harrow. One half of this I planted to yellow eyed beans, and the other half I drilled to fodder corn.

While I was doing this I heard a wagon stop at my gate, and soon saw 'old Jew Cummings' approaching, looking about him on every side.

'Mornin', said he as he drew near.

'Good morning, sir,' said I in reply.

'I've be'n 'n 't we'd a sort o' crazy man come 'mongst us specin' to carry on farmin' in some new fangled way. I 'spose you're the man.'

'Well, I don't know whether I am the man or not. What is the name of the man you are looking after?'

'They tell me his name's Henshaw, and has bought the poor old Flint Hill farm, and this is it.'

'Then I confess to being the man you are looking for; but as to being crazy I am non committal. Time will settle that.'

'Wal, I can settle that now. If ye think o' gittin' rich on this here farm, or even gittin' a livin', ye haint far from bein' crazy or a fool.'

'Perhaps you're heard of the man who was going to cure the mule of his mulishness, and was soon seen pulling himself out of the ditch.'

There was no particular point to this repartee, but it showed the old conceit that his opinion wasn't worth a rush in my estimation. He was clearly a little thrown off his balance by my cool impudence, and suddenly amended his tone and manner.

'Wal,' he said, 'this here farm was considered one of the best in the town fifty or sixty year ago, but it fell to a poor, lazy, slack and shiftless fellow 'bout that time, and he just skinned the life out on't.'

'If he only went skin deep, as it is pretty clear he did, the heart may be sound yet,' said I.

The old miser felt rather set back again, and hesitated for what to say next as I stood and looked him in the face with what he probably thought provoking coolness.

'What kind o' plantin' du ye call this?' he asked, as he ran his eye along the rows in which the kernels of corn lay rather close together.

'I am drilling this corn in for corn fodder, as I expect to cut but little hay.'

'Ye gwine tu keep yer critters in yer house?' I don't see's ye've got any barn.'

'Perhaps,' said I, 'you haven't heard of the new way of wintering stock.'

'No; what is it?'

'Why, to provide each one with a great coat and mittens, and tie them to the trees.'

I really think the old fellow thought for a moment I was crazy for sure, as I kept a very sober face. His little keen grey eye scanned my face, and perhaps a twinkle in my eye or some lurking trace of humor may have convinced him that he was being fooled.

'Wal,' said he after a little, 'that air'd be 'bout's sensible as some o' the new fangled notions 'bout farmin', and this here notion o' farmin' with store stuff for manure is one on 'em.'

'Did you ever try it?' I asked.

'Try it, no.'

'Do you know anybody that has?'

'No, nor don't want to.'

'How do you know then but what this 'store stuff' is better than manure?'

'How do I know? why 't stands to reason.'

'Let us hear your reason. How is it that manure is useful in farming?'

'Reason! what fool don't know manure is good for farmin'?'

'Yes, but what fool don't know that it was only by trying it that it was found to be good to make crops grow, and who but a fool will say nothing else can?'

I was too good natured for the old man to get provoked, though he evidently thought I was rather sharp with him.

'Wal,' he said rather thoughtfully, 'that air may be so, but I don't believe it.'

'We shall see something about it, as I have used no other fertilizer on this two acres which you say has been run to death. If I get good crops it must be owing to the 'store stuff,' must it not?'

'Sartin, for this here land's too poor to raise white beans, for I've seen it tried.'

'Well, I have half of these two acres planted to yellow eyed beans, and half to corn, and we will see what the harvest will bring forth.'

'Wal, I'll call agin then, and see what ye git. Good mornin',' said he as he took his leave.

By the time I had got the beans and fodder corn planted, my field corn and potatoes were coming up, and the seed of every variety of weeds which had lain dormant in the soil for a generation or two, had waked up to life and activity too. I had read of harrowing corn just as it was coming out of the ground to destroy the weeds, and benefit rather than injure the corn. With a good deal of misgiving I hitched my horse to my harrow and went over one row, then went back, expecting to find half of it pulled up by the roots. As I had drilled it in the rows I thought it had no anything for them. I had pulled up some of it. But though I searched carefully, I could not find a spear pulled up, but the fine crop of weeds was *non est inventus*, or in other words not discoverable, so I concluded to 'drive on' and I did, and when I was done the acre of corn looked as if just ready for planting, as scarcely any of it was large enough to be seen, and much that had been was partially covered with the soil.

This operation succeeded so well with the corn I concluded to try the potatoes too, which were getting quite well out of ground so that the rows could be seen in most places. I tried one row, then examined it as I had the roots not found scarcely a plant disturbed, so I drove on over this also.

Some of my neighbors had asked me while I was at the post office and store, both being the same, how many acres I had planted, smiled when I told them about five. There was a general smile, and one asked how many hands I expected to help me in hoeing time, evidently thinking I should find my hands full.

[To be continued.]

THE ORIGIN OF SCANDAL.

Said Mrs. A—
To Mrs. J.,
In quite a confidential way,
"It seems to me
That Mrs. B.
Takes too much—something, in her tea."
And Mrs. J.
To Mrs. K.
That night was overheard to say,
She grieved to touch
Upon it much,
But "Mrs. B. took—such and such!"
Then Mrs. K.
Went straight away
And told a friend, the self-same day,
"'Twas sad to think"—
Here came a wink—
"That Mrs. B. was fond of drink."
The friend's disgust
Was such she must
Inform a lady "which she nussed,"
"That Mrs. B.,
At half-past three,
Was that far gone she couldn't see."
This lady we
Have mentioned, she
Gave needle-work to Mrs. B.,
And at such news
Could scarcely choose
But further needle-work refuse.
Then Mrs. B.,
As you'll agree,
Quite properly—she said, said she,
That she would track
The scandal back
To those who made her look so black.
Through Mrs. K.
And Mrs. J.
She got at last to Mrs. A.,'
And asked her why,
With cruel lie,
She painted her so deep a dye?
Said Mrs. A.,
In some dismay,
"I no such thing could ever say;
I said that you
Much stouter grew
On too much sugar—which you do!"

FIGHT BETWEEN A DOG AND A RAM.

John Barton, a farmer of Foster, R. I., near the Connecticut border, owns an extensive farm, known as the Bradford Place, on which he raises large flocks of sheep. For many months he and his neighbors have lost many sheep by a strange dog who killed them at night. Almost daily in the morning two or more were found dead in the lots. At about 2 o'clock one morning a great clatter was heard in the sheep pens at Barton's, but it was not until two hours later that the howls of a dog brought the farm hands from their beds. Two or three men hurried down to the pens and found thirteen fine sheep mangled and dead near the fold.

The noise of a desperate struggle was heard at a distance in the darkness. The men found a big Newfoundland dog and a powerful ram in combat. They had fought all around the pen, knocked down the fence and in their alternate dashes and retreats had gone half a mile from the fold. The ram was in the open pasture and it was impossible for the farmers to stop it.

The struggle had lasted an hour, and both combatants were bleeding. As often as the dog fastened his jaws in his enemy's quarters he was shaken off, and before he recovered was butted, rolled over and jammed against the turf. The dog was thoroughly exhausted and anxious to abandon the fight, but at the first movement to flee the ram fairly ran him down, and lifting him high on his horns, dropped him, trampled over his body, and then butted him. It was not until both animals had fallen with exhaustion, that the conflict was ended. Two of the dog's ribs were broken and battered in, and his head was terribly mutilated. The ram was scarred and bloody. The dog belongs to Job Slade, who paid Mr. Barton $60 damages for the sheep killed. Mr. Barton asked nothing for the injuries to his ram.

THE KING OF BEGGARS.

A CHINESE STORY.

BY MISS ADA HAVEN.

[The Independent.]

Here is a story for you that my teacher told me.

There was once a boy who studied quite hard; for his parents were very proud of him, and wished him to succeed in life; so they did not give him anything else to do, but let him give his whole time to study. However, he did not study quite hard enough; for when he was examined for his first degree he failed. Shortly after this his parents died and he was left alone in the world.

Now he did not know how to manage the estate at all. He only understood books; so the crops were left to the care of themselves. Of course that was not very profitable; so before long the scholar had to sell house and farm to get food. He lived awhile on the price of the farm; and when this was all eaten up there was nothing for him to do but to beg.

Some days he fared pretty well; but sometimes he got but little, and often nothing to eat. Then he suffered from cold and heat. His body, unused to exposure, could not endure these hardships; and before long he was so ill he could hardly crawl. He crept to the gate of a rich man, and lay down there to die, as he thought.

Now this rich man chanced to be the King of the Beggars. He is a man who is commissioned by the Emperor to keep all the beggars in order. He makes a good amount of money by selling begging places; but nobody respects him but the beggars.

Well, this day the Beggar King was gone out to look after his army, and had left his daughter at home to keep house. This daughter was very beautiful and good. Her father was proud of her, and vowed she should marry a gentleman. But the King of Beggars, though he had plenty of money, had not a very good name in the world, and no gentleman came a-wooing. So, though the girl was now past twenty, they two were living alone together; for her mother was dead.

Today, when she had cooked the rice, she went to the gate to see if her father were coming. She saw instead this wretched object at the gate.

She was as good as she was beautiful; so she stooped down and asked him if he were very ill. He had just enough life in him to murmur:

'Not ill, but starving.'

She ran quickly into the house, took up her own bowl of rice, brought it out, and fed him with her own chop sticks.

He gained strength enough to thank her, and give her a '*Kow-ton*,' that is to knock his head on the ground at her feet. Then he said:

'O mine! I am so very cold!'

She remembered some old garments of her father's, and told him to come in and put them on.

Just as he had finished, the door opened, and in came the King of Beggars. When he saw the young man of course he was in a towering rage and scolded his daughter well; for, really, what she had done was very, very improper in the eyes of the Chinese—speaking to a young man. When the storm was somewhat abated the girl told him some of the circumstances, and the young man spoke a few words of apology.

As soon as the King of Beggars heard the scholar beggar speak his face changed and he invited him into his private office, saying he had an affair to consult him about. There he asked him about his parents, whether he had a wife, then if he was engaged. To these he replied in the negative.

'Well, then,' said the King of Beggars, 'would you like to be my son-in-law? I have plenty of money, and I see from your speech that you are a gentleman and worthy of my dear daughter.'

To the poor boy it sounded like a rare chance, and he accepted.

The young couple were married as soon as arrangements could be made. Then a teacher was engaged, and the young man resumed his studies.

At the next examination he passed. Then he studied harder than ever, and before many years took his second degree. Both these examinations are held in the local districts. But, for the third and highest degree, scholars come from all parts of the empire to Peking, once in three years, to be examined. By and by he thought himself ready for this examination. His father-in-law was little anxious at the thought of his taking so long a journey alone. So he decided to place his property in the hands of relatives, and the three should go to Peking together.

There he tried and won again. Those who gain this third degree can become mandarins. He passed with distinguished merit, and after some time was appointed mandarin in a distant province.

The father started the couple on their way to their new home, and then went down to wind up his own affairs, preparatory to coming and living with them. The young couple went off on donkey back, travelling in this way for several days, till they reached a large river, where they took a house boat.

Now the new mandarin had a chance to sit at leisure, and take in his new situation. And the Devil (for the Devil can speak Chinese even if other foreigners can't) 'found some mischief still.' He set him a thinking about his high position; and gradually he came to think how it would sound to introduce his father-in-law as the King of Beggars. His wife, too; she was beautiful, true; but then she was the daughter of the King of Beggars. That was too shameful. So he forgot how much he owed to both of these, who loved him so much, and thought only of contriving some way to get rid of them.

One night, when all on board were fast in drunken sleep, the mandarin walked the deck alone in the moonlight. All at once the solution presented itself to him. He went down to his wife.

'Come up!' he said. 'The moonlight is too beautiful to be wasted.'

He led her to the dark side of the boat.

'There,' he said, 'just lean over and see the reflection of the stars in the water.'

She leaned far over the edge of the boat. He did it almost before he had time to think. There was a splash; but no one woke. The river was deep.

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Then he drew a sigh of relief, and went and called the sailors from their drunken sleep. He was anxious to get away from the spot.

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The sailors rubbed their eyes, and did not hear anything in the water, and felt inclined to doubt the word of their master. But he was a mandarin, and his word was law. So they were off. The mandarin sat on deck, watching them.

At daybreak they were many miles beyond the fatal spot. Then for the first time he went into his cabin. A moment after, he came rushing out, grief and consternation on his face.

'Oh! my wife!' he cried. 'Those water-kelpies have carried her away! It must have been at the time I heard them outside the boat.'

So he gave immediate directions to some of his men to go back and search. If they could not find the body they were to dive for it, and stay a whole month searching. He waited some time, but at last could wait no longer. So he left directions about what was to be done if the body was found, spent much money burning paper furniture for the use of her soul, and went on to assume the duties of his office.

He had not been living in the yamen, (mandarins' palace) very long, when the King of Beggars came, bundles and bedding to take up his quarters there.

The mandarin broke it to him gently, then hinted, as his daughter was not alive, the King of Beggars had better return home, and furnish him road money, said he had no further claim on him.

The emotions of the King of Beggars were as much suspicion as sorrow. But since the fellow was a mandarin, he dared say nothing; but took himself off, leaving the money lying.

Meanwhile, where was the young wife?

Fortunately, in her fall, she had been caught by the branch of a tree which was floating on the water: so that though she sank, she soon rose, and was carried along as on a boat, by the swift current of the river. She was stunned by the fall, and knew nothing, not even when her strange raft dashed her up against the side of a great mandarin's boat. Some of the servants on the boat, however, saw it and told their master. He commanded them to fish her up; and, seeing it was a woman, gave her over into the care of his wife and the woman servants.

When she came to herself, she found the old mandarin and his wife bending over her and of course, was perplexed. They bade her be quiet then: but after she was better, inquired into the matter. At first, she would not tell, but would only cry and weep. But by little and little their love and kindness won her confidence, and she told them all, even to the name of her husband. The old couple told her not to fear, that they would adopt her as their daughter.

On arriving at his yamen the old mandarin made a feast, to which all the lesser mandarins of the province under his control were to come to pay their respects to him. Among the rest came this new mandarin; for he was under the control of the older one. He brought with him his credentials; for this was the first time he had paid his respects. As the old mandarin handed them back he said:

'These are all correct. You may stop after the others have retired.'

When they were gone the mandarin took him aside and asked him whether he had a wife.

'No,' said the younger. 'My father and mother died before they had arranged a betrothal for me.'

'Very well, then,' said the senior: 'That is all right. Now I have a proposal to make to you. I have an adopted daughter for whom I am anxious to secure just such a likely young man as yourself. If you would like to entertain the proposal I will arrange all matters properly for you.

Then the young one chuckled within himself that he had done such a brilliant thing on the river. Not only was he not tied to the daughter of the King of Beggars, but he was going to be the son-in-law of the grand mandarin of the district. Of course he consented on the spot,

'I am getting old,' said the senior, 'and I want this business settled right up. It would delay too much if you should journey home. You can stay here, and I will provide your wedding outfit.'

So he said, and the old mandarin provided everything needful for the *trousseau* of both. Of course he did not see the young lady. Bridegrooms never do till after they are married.

When the old mandarin told his new daughter that he had arranged a marriage for her she broke into protestations.

'He has treated me ill; but I cannot be so bad to him!'

But a word in her ear quieted her.

There was a grand wedding, the yamen hung all over with red satin and lanterns. The bridegroom was brought in in robes of state to meet his bride, who was led by the ladies in attendance, her head covered by the usual bridal veil of embroidered red satin. Together they bowed and worshiped Heaven and earth, and went through all the prostrations. Then the bridegroom and the bride, led by her ladies, went into an inner room.

As soon as the door was shut, the ladies lifted the veil. The bride took a horsewhip from among a number that were lying there, and that was the signal for each of the ladies to take a whip; and they whipped the wretch until he roared for mercy.

After that they lived happily to a good old age together.

'But,' said I, 'I don't think it was very nice for the wife to beat her husband.' 'Oh,' said my teacher, 'but the mandarin told her to, and she had to; and the husband deserved it, too.' And I think so, too. Don't you?

WENDELL PHILLIPS ON THE "LOST ARTS."

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Mr. Batterson, of Hartford, walking with Bonzi, the architect of the Thames tunnel, in Egypt, asked him what he thought of the mechanical power of the Egyptians; and he said: "There is Pompey's Pillar; it is 100 feet high, and the capital weighs 2,000 pounds. It is something of a feat to hang 2,000 pounds at that hight in the air, and the few men who can do it would better discuss Egyptian mechanics."

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